Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-171
Wednesday
6 September 1989

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-171 *6 September 1989*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: Materials on the Ninth Conference of the Heads of State or Government of the Nonaligned Movement, being held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia from 4-7 September, will be published in supplement form with an East Europe DAILY REPORT cover, starting on 6 September 1989, issue number 171.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Syria's Al-Asad Meets Arab Officials in Tripoli 1
Meets Bendjedid, King Hassan *[Damascus Radio]* 1
Discusses Lebanon With 'Arafat *[Amman Radio]* 1
PDRY's Al-'Attas *[Damascus Radio]* 1
Sudan's Al-Bashir, Qatari Minister *[Damascus TV]* 1
PLO Delegation Reportedly To Visit Syria Soon *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 3 Sep]* 1

Palestinian Affairs

Intifadah Call Number 45 Issued 5 Sep *[Sanaa VOP]* 1
PLO's Hurani Denies 'Arafat-Al-Asad Meeting *[Dubayy AL-BAYAN 4 Sep]* 4
PFLP-GC Issues Statement on Israeli Raid *[Al-Quds Palestinian Radio]* 4

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Egypt's Mubarak Reportedly Plans Official Visit *[AFP]* 5

Egypt

MENA Confirms Mubarak To Visit Algeria 5
Mubarak Speaks to TANJUG, MENA Directors *[TANJUG]* 5
Mubarak Receives Sidqi, Abu-Ghazalah, 'Ubayd *[MENA]* 6
Sidqi Examines IMF Contacts, New Tax *[MENA]* 6
Abu-Ghazalah Received by French Premier Rocard *[Cairo Radio]* 6
ACC Members Sign Agreement on Industry Council *[MENA]* 6
Interior Minister Departs for ACC Meeting *[MENA]* 6
Returns From ACC Meeting *[MENA]* 6
Ghali Congratulates Chad, Libya on Agreement *[Cairo Radio]* 7
PDRY President Stops Over, Delivers Comments *[MENA]* 7
Tapes Said To Contain Iranian Activists Orders *[London AL-SHARQ AL-ASWAT 28 Aug]* 7
Muslim Leader on Arrests of Fundamentalists *[RFL]* 7
Increased Share of M-1 Tank Production Demanded *[AL-AHRAM 1 Sep]* 8
Syrian Presence, Role in Lebanon Analyzed *[AL-MUSAWWAR 25 Aug]* 8

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Greets Djibouti Leader in Tripoli *[Djibouti Radio]* 8
Receives Djibouti President *[JANA]* 9
Somali President Arrives in Tripoli *[Mogadishu Radio]* 9
Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi *[Mogadishu Radio]* 9
More on Al-Qadhdhafi Meeting *[JANA]* 9
Uganda's Museveni Confers With Somali Minister *[Mogadishu Radio]* 9
More Foreign Guests Arrive for Celebration *[JANA]* 10

Egypt's Wali Arrives in Tripoli for Anniversary *[JANA]* 10
PDRY's al-'Attas Comments in Tripoli; Departs *[Aden Radio]* 10
Chissano Welcomed by Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi *[Maputo Radio]* 11
Ugandan, Burkinabe Leaders Arrive for Celebration *[JANA] [Maputo Radio]* 11
Al-Qadhdhafi Hosts Banquet for Guests 31 August *[JANA]* 11
President Daniel Ortega Arrives in Tripoli *[JANA]* 12
Lauds Al-Qadhdhafi, Libya *[Tripoli TV]* 12
Presents Gift to Al-Qadhdhafi *[JANA]* 12
Al-Asad's Activities in Tripoli Reported *[Damascus Radio]* 12
More on al-Asad's Meetings *[Damascus Radio]* 13
President Chadli Meets With Arab Leaders *[Algiers TV]* 13
Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi *[JANA]* 13
Ends Tripoli Visit *[JANA]* 13
Moroccan King Holds Meeting on Board Ship *[Rabat Radio]* 13
Receives Al-Qadhdhafi on Board *[Rabat Radio]* 14
Moroccan Premier, Minister Depart Celebration *[JANA]* 14
Sudanese Prime Minister Calls For Arab Unity *[Omdurman Radio]* 14
Al-Bashir, President Museveni Discuss Garang *[SUNA]* 14
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives International Visitors *[JANA]* 15
Ghana's Rawlings Calls for Nonaligned Secretariat *[Accra Radio]* 15
Staff Major Jallud Receives USSR's Vlasov *[JANA]* 15
Khalkali, Iranian Delegation Meets With Jallud *[IRNA]* 15
Noriega Daughters Hand Letter to Al-Qadhdhafi *[JANA]* 15
France To Supply Libya With 'Nonlethal' Arms *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 4 Sep]* 16

Sudan

Al-Bashir Leads Delegation to Tripoli *[Omdurman Radio]* 16
Al-Bashir Cited on 'Progress' in Ties With Iraq *[INA]* 16
Says Iraq Supports Policies *[Omdurman Radio]* 16
Deputy Prime Minister Reviews Egypt Trip *[Omdurman Radio]* 17
Saudi Arabia Donates 100 Trucks, Sends Oil *[Omdurman Radio]* 17
Agreement Signed With Japan for Food Assistance *[Omdurman Radio]* 17
BBC: Referendum Planned for Shari'a Law 17
Official Reveals Hard Currency Surrendered *[Omdurman Radio]* 17
Confiscated Party Assets To Be Distributed *[SUNA]* 17
Council Member Checks Relief Supplies in South *[Omdurman Radio]* 18
AFP Notes Government Releases 23 Detainees 18
SPLA Radio Cites Dismissals by Khartoum Junta 18
Al-Bashir's Peaceful Intentions Questioned *[SPLA Radio]* 18

Tunisia

Ben Ali Departs Tripoli; Makes Statement *[JANA]* 19
President To Leave for NAM Summit in Belgrade *[Tunis Radio]* 19
Islamic Movement Communique Condemns Government *[Paris LE MONDE 5 Sep]* 19

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Bahrain

Amir Departs for Belgrade for Nonaligned Summit *[WAKH]* 21
Foreign Minister Leaves for Summit *[WAKH]* 21

Kuwait

Interior Minister Takes Message to Al-Qadhdhafi *[KUNA]* 21
State Minister Departs for Nonaligned Summit *[WAKH]* 21

Oman

Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Belgrade *[Muscat Radio]* 21
Interior Minister Departs for Libyan Celebration *[WAKH]* 21

PDRY

YSP Political Bureau Holds Session 4 Sep *[Aden Radio]* 21

Qatar

Heir Apparent Leaves for NAM Summit Meeting *[WAKH]* 22
Foreign Minister Departs *[WAKH]* 22

Saudia Arabia

Housing Minister Heads Delegation to Tripoli *[SPA]* 22

United Arab Emirates

Foreign Affairs Official Departs for NAM Meeting *[WAKH]* 22

Yemen Arab Republic

Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Belgrade *[Sanaa Radio]* 22
Prime Minister Leaves for Libyan Celebrations *[Sanaa Radio]* 22
Interior Minister Leaves for ACC Meeting *[Sanaa Radio]* 22

IRAQ

700 Iraqis, Egyptians Reported Killed in Blast *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 23
Further on 'Missile' Factory Blast *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 23
Information Minister Interviewed on Issues *[London AL-TADAMUN 28 Aug]* 23
Iraqi Delegation to IPU Withdraws Proposal *[INA]* 25
Saddam's Envoy Returns From Libyan Celebrations *[INA]* 25
Cooperation Minutes Signed With Bahrain *[INA]* 25
Trade Minister Meets Chadian Counterpart *[INA]* 26
Trade Minister Leaves for Turkey 4 Sep *[Baghdad Voice of the Masses]* 26
Vietnamese Communications Minister Arrives 2 Sep 26
Hopes To Promote Cooperation *[INA]* 26
Meets Iraqi Counterpart *[INA]* 26
Iraqi-Indian Cooperation Committee Meets 2 Sep *[INA]* 26
Industry Minister Receives Bulgarian Official *[INA]* 26
Slavko Jovic Leaves Baghdad for Tehran 30 Aug *[INA]* 27

Israel

'Arafat's Visa Request Prompts Reactions 28
Peres Sees No Affect on U.S. Ties *[Jerusalem Radio]* 28
Shamir Opposed to 'Arafat Visa *[Jerusalem Radio]* 28
Request Seen 'Test of U.S. Intentions' *[AL-FAJR 4 Sep]* 28
Peace With Arab States Before Palestinians *[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Sep]* 28
Rabin Denies Meeting With Mubarak in Works *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 6 Sep]* 29
Jordan To Increase Security Along Border *[HADASHOT 6 Sep]* 29
Commentary Sees Fatah-Jordan Link in Attack *[MA'ARIV 4 Sep]* 29
Shamir To Continue Efforts To Aid Refugees *[Jerusalem Radio]* 30
Soviet Consular Representatives Return to USSR *[HADASHOT 3 Sep]* 30
No Menem Peace Plan Received by Foreign Ministry *[Jerusalem Radio]* 30
MK To Meet With South African Officials *[IDF]* 30
Aviation Heads To Attend International Meeting *[THE JERUSALEM POST 4 Sep]* 31
Helicopters Used in 'Initiated Operations' *[Jerusalem Radio]* 31

Masked Men Launch Attacks in West Bank Incidents 31
Border Police Among Wounded *[Jerusalem Radio]* 31
Khan Yunus Boy Dies of Wounds *[Jerusalem Radio]* 31
Rafah Man Dies Following Beating *[Jerusalem Radio]* 31
SLA Defuses Explosive Charge in Security Zone *[IDF Radio]* 32
90,000 Settlers Seen in Territories by 1990 *[HA'ARETZ 1 Sep]* 32

JORDAN

King Husayn Returns From Cairo 27 Aug *[Amman Radio]* 33
King Sends Congratulations to Al-Qadhdhafi *[Amman Radio]* 33
Jardanah on Debts, Al-Nabulsi on Exchange Rate *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 5 Sep]* 33
Government Plans To Sell Some Public Companies *[Amman Radio]* 33
'Arab-Japanese Dialogue' Symposium Held in Amman 33
Crown Prince Addresses Session *[Amman Radio]* 33
Dialogue Concludes *[AL-DUSTUR 6 Sep]* 34
Crown Prince Hasan Lectures at War Academy *[Amman TV]* 35
Crown Prince Meets European Community Expert *[Amman TV]* 35
Ministers of Education, Agriculture Appointed *[Amman Radio]* 35
Jordanian, Iraqi Ministers Discuss Civil Defense *[AL-DUSTUR 4 Sep]* 35
South Yemen Delegation Arrives in Amman 5 Sep 35
Ministers To Meet Counterparts *[Amman Radio]* 35
Economic Talks Begin *[Amman Radio]* 35
Lawyers Urge Troops To Withdraw From Lebanon *[AL-DUSTUR 30 Aug]* 36
U.S. 'Plan' on Soviet Jewish Immigration Cited *[AL-DUSTUR 4 Sep]* 36
Sweden's Monarch, Queen To Visit in Sep *[Amman Radio]* 36

Lebanon

U.S. Ambassador, Embassy Staff Leave for Cyprus 37
Reason for Departure Unclear *[VOL]* 37
'Deterioration' in Ties Cited *[Voice of National Resistance]* 37
Demonstrators Lift 'Siege' *[RFL]* 37
Lebanese Front on U.S. Departure *[VOL]* 37
'Awn on Departure of 'American Cain' *[VOL]* 37
Fadlallah Calls on Bush To Show 'Goodwill' *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 38
'Awn Reportedly Willing To Relinquish Position 38
Seeks Syrian Withdrawal Guarantee *[VOM]* 38
Further on Conditions *[VOL]* 38
'Awn Readiness To Step Down *[AFP]* 38
Syria Reportedly Sets 5 Conditions for Solution *[RFL]* 38
'Awn Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Anniversary *[VOL]* 39
Al-Qadhdhafi on 'Lebanese Quagmire,' Arab Unity *[RFL]* 39
Hizballah Leader Rejects Negotiations With Israel *[VOM]* 39
Hizballah's Al-Tufayli Comments on 'Awn, Others *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 39
Communists, Hizballah Agree To Promote Ties *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 40
Hizballah Article Hails Border Attacks on Israel *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 40
Iraq Reportedly Halts Arms Shipments to 'Awn *[Kuwait AL-WATAN 4 Sep]* 40
Israeli Forces Escalate 'Aggression' in South *[Beirut Radio]* 40
Israeli Aircraft Overflights Continue 41
Fly Over Sidon, Camps *[VOM]* 41
Aircraft Drop Flares *[VOM]* 41
Mock Raids Over Sidon *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 41

SYRIA

Al-Shar' Releases Letter Refuting Iraqi 'Lies' *[Damascus Radio]* 42

Afghanistan

Najibullah Holds News Conference 22 Aug *[Kabul Radio]* 43

Further on 22 Aug News Briefing *[Kabul Radio]* 51
Najibullah Comments on NAM, Geneva Accords *[BAKHTAR]* 51
Najibullah To Propose New Committee on Accords *[BAKHTAR]* 52
Najibullah Sends Message to Khowst Residents *[BAKHTAR]* 53
Mujahidin Launch Attacks in Area North of Khowst *[Islamabad Radio]* 53
Mujahidin Intensify Fighting Before Winter *[AFP]* 53
Islamabad Radio Details Mujahidin Operations 54
Khalis Ignores Moscow Warning on Airport Attack *[AFP]* 54

Bangladesh

1 Student Shot Dead in Chittagong Violence *[AFP]* 55
Factions Clash at University *[Delhi Radio]* 55
Supreme Court Challenges Amendment's Legality *[AFP]* 55
Vice President Terms Court Verdict 'Binding' *[Dhaka Radio]* 56
Chief of Islamic Conference Organization Arrives *[Dhaka Radio]* 56
Calls on President Ershad *[Dhaka International]* 56
Holds Official Talks With Mahmud *[Dhaka Radio]* 56
Meets With Prime Minister *[Dhaka International]* 57
Minister Leaves for Istanbul ICO Energy Meeting *[Dhaka International]* 57

India

Sikh Separatists Step Up 'Terror' Campaign 57
'New Wave of Violence' Expected *[AFP]* 57
6 Killed, 10 Injured in Punjab *[Delhi Radio]* 58
Five 'Hardcore' Terrorists Killed *[Delhi Radio]* 58
Accident Prompts Student Rampage in New Delhi *[AFP]* 58
10 Killed, 7 Injured in Landmine Explosion *[Delhi Radio]* 58
Former Army Chief Wanted Bofors Deal Canceled *[AFP]* 58
Congress-I Responds to Charges *[AFP]* 59
Foreign Minister Discusses Mideast Policy *[TISHRIN 23 Aug]* 60
18 Opposition Legislators Suspended in Tripura *[Delhi Radio]* 60
BBC Correspondent Visits Disputed Siachen Area *[BBC]* 60
Nepal Raising Bilateral Issue at Belgrade Summit *[Delhi Radio]* 61
High-Level Omani Delegation Arrives 4 Sep *[Delhi Radio]* 61
Joint Publication of Nehru, Ho Chi Minh Writings *[Delhi TV]* 61

Iran

Besharati on Gorbachev Visit, Improving Ties *[IRNA]* 61
Civil Aviation Protocol Signed With USSR *[Tehran Radio]* 62
Aviation Technology Offered *[IRNA]* 62
Clergy Group Say No Compromise With U.S. Possible *[TEHRAN TIMES 27 Aug]* 62
Western Governments Want To 'Control' Country *[KEYHAN HAVAI 23 Aug]* 63
U.S. Naval Officer Criticizes 'Vincennes' Actions *[Tehran Radio]* 63
TEHRAN TIMES Assailed for Article on Cooper *[KEYHAN HAVAI 23 Aug]* 64
Daily Criticizes Foreign Ministry's Sudan Policy *[IRNA]* 64
More on Ministry's Position *[AFP]* 65
Paper Urges Closer Regional Cooperation *[IRNA]* 65
NAM Should 'Interfere' in Regional Issues *[IRNA]* 66
Daily Questions Direction of Nonaligned Movement *[IRNA]* 66
Editorial Urges UN To Pressure Iraq To Withdraw *[IRNA]* 66
Editorial Says Silence May 'Damage' Mujahidin *[TEHRAN TIMES 28 Aug]* 67
Navy To Stage 'Full-Scale' Gulf Maneuvers in Dec *[IRNA]* 67
Nahavand Guards Smash 2 Narcotics Rings *[Tehran Radio]* 67
Guards Arrest 17 Drug Traffickers in Khorasan *[Tehran Radio]* 67
President Appoints Habibi Office Chief *[IRNA]* 67
President Chairs Cabinet Session on 5-Year Plan *[IRNA]* 68
KEYHAN HAVAI Welcomes President's Policies *[23 Aug]* 68
KAYHAN Praises President's Program *[IRNA]* 69

Tehran TV Commentary on New Cabinet Ministers 69
Radicals Said To Organize Against President *[Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio]* 70
President's 'Dismissal' as Commander in Chief *[Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio]* 70

Pakistan

Islamabad Confirms Crash of F-16 Aircraft *[Islamabad Radio]* 71
Khan, Bhutto Issue Messages on Defense Day *[Islamabad Radio]* 71
Bhutto Visits Arms Exhibition in Rawalpindi *[Islamabad International]* 72
Bhutto Names Assistant on Provincial Coordination *[Islamabad Radio]* 72
Bail Petition for Province Governor Dismissed *[Islamabad Radio]* 72
Agricultural Cooperation Accord Signed With Oman *[Islamabad Radio]* 72
Romanian Delegation Ends Visit, Departs 1 Sep *[Islamabad Radio]* 72

Sri Lanka

Premadasa Speaks, Renews Call for Peace Talks *[AFP]* 72
Anti-Government Violence Continues, Over 20 Dead *[AFP]* 73

Inter-Arab Affairs

Syria's Al-Asad Meets Arab Officials in Tripoli

Meets Bendjedid, King Hassan

JN0209064489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Tripoli—A meeting took place at noon yesterday between President Hafiz al-Asad and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The two leaders reviewed the situation in the Lebanese arena and discussed matters related to implementing the Casablanca summit resolution on Lebanon. They also discussed bilateral relations.

A meeting took place last night between President Hafiz al-Asad and His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco. The two leaders discussed the situation in the Lebanese arena and matters related to implementing the Casablanca summit resolution on Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Discusses Lebanon With 'Arafat

JN0209072489 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli—Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad met in Tripoli last night with King Hassan II of Morocco. The meeting dealt with the situation in Lebanon, and the problems concerning the implementation of the Casablanca summit resolution on Lebanon.

A three-sided meeting among the Syrian, Algerian, and Libyan presidents was held in Tripoli yesterday to discuss the Arab and Lebanese situation.

President Hafiz al-Asad also met last night in Tripoli with Yasir 'Arafat, president of the Palestinian state. Palestinian sources described the meeting as cordial, indicating that 'Arafat stressed the importance of finding an Arab solution to the conflict in Lebanon. Sources added 'Arafat also stressed that the continuation of the current situation in Lebanon reflects badly on the people's intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Arab territories.

PDRY's Al-'Attas

JN0209132489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli—His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1015 Damascus time today at his place of residence in Tripoli President Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY]. Al-Asad also received PDRY Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam; Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, Yemeni Socialist Party member; Dr Husayn 'Ali Husayn, head of the PDRY Foreign Ministry Political Department; and the PDRY charge d'affaires in Tripoli attended the meeting. Discussion covered Arab developments and bilateral ties.

Sudan's Al-Bashir, Qatari Minister

JN0209181989 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad received at his place of residence in Tripoli at 1100 Damascus time today Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council. The meeting was attended by Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and the Sudanese delegation accompanying Lt Gen al-Bashir.

This meeting was followed by a closed meeting between the president and the Sudanese chairman. Discussion during the meeting dealt with the situation and developments in the Arab arena, the situation in Africa, and bilateral relations. [passage omitted]

President Hafiz al-Asad received Qatari Information Minister Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Suhaym Al Thani at his place of residence in Tripoli at 1200 Damascus time today.

PLO Delegation Reportedly To Visit Syria Soon

JN0409150789 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 3 Sep 89 p 21

[Text] Tripoli—A high-level Palestinian delegation will visit Damascus soon to prepare for an official visit by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, to Syria.

An informed Palestinian source has said that this was agreed upon during the talks held between the Syrian and Palestinian leaders the night before last in Tripoli.

In a statement to AL-ITTIHAD, the source said the meeting between the two presidents in Libya was positive and dealt in detail with developments in the Palestinian and Lebanese spheres.

The sources added: For the first time, during the meeting both leaders showed common interest in developing relations between the PLO and Syria.

Palestinian Affairs

Intifadah Call Number 45 Issued 5 Sep

JN0509183289 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Call No 45 issued by the PLO-the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah on 5 September in "all parts of the State of Palestine"—"The September and Martyrdom Call"]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Call, call, call. No voice rises above the intifadah [uprising]. No voice rises above the people of Palestine, the people of the PLO. The call of September and Martyrdom. Call number 45.

O masses of our heroic people, the people of martyrdom and victory. Greetings to you as you continue recording your glory through your struggles and sacrifices to realize your holy rights of freedom and independence to live in dignity like all other nations.

Salutations to the martyrs and heroes who are daily confronting an increasing Israeli oppression which increases their determination to continue their legitimate struggle to eliminate the occupation. A special salutation goes to our struggling workers and their families in valiant Gaza, who have been steadfast for the 3d week running in the face of hunger and oppression. Salutations to our pursued heroes in the valleys and mountains who are exposed to the authorities' treachery and immediate execution by their fascist hands.

O struggling masses; O mothers, wives, and children of the martyrs and the detainees; O old men, children, workers, and merchants; O makers of chivalry, dignity, and pride.

The Unified National Leadership personified in each and every one of you, in each prisoner and martyr, in each struggler—male or female—wherever they may be, in every youth who lifted his arm to defend the dignity and honor of his nation and country, in every worker and merchant who has joined the intifadah's struggle program and performed his duty and the requirements of his chivalry, affirms to you that the secret of your power lies in your unity, integration, and stand in one rank and trench, directing the fire of your struggle at one enemy—the occupation—with one purpose—independence.

Since your unity is the key and sound basis for the continuation and escalation of your struggle, it is now targetted by the occupation authorities, who will not succeed in extinguishing the flames of your raging intifadah no matter how varied and innovative their fascist and satanic measures get. The authorities are trying to perform their tasks through a large-scale campaign which includes rumors, false statements, exploitation and escalation of family and personal disputes, and the harming of the reputation and honor of figures in all parts of our occupied homeland, in the hopes of making you feel desperate and diverting your attention to your local and personal disputes. You would then move away from your basic duty and holy goal. The intifadah would then start to collapse from the inside after Israel failed to destroy it from the outside.

O masses of the glorious intifadah; regardless of how hard the enemy tries, the plan and all the technological methods Mordekhay promised to use will soon fail, God willing. This is thanks to your continuous awareness of the enemy's malicious attempts to fragment and divide ranks and to direct the raging intifadah fire toward the enemy, hitting it in all locations, escalating your struggle against the occupation, and elevating it with new methods you create as part of your disobedient struggle against its organs and through your perseverant action to root unity in the ranks of our people and practice constructive action to set up the unified and popular committees and institutions. Some of these are the committees of defensive guards to confront the enemy's oppressive raids on our villages and sly attempts to track down the pursued and execute them immediately or arrest them.

Let the September call be a call for unity; let work start to build the unionist organs and committees; and let struggle against the occupation take place through the stone and the sling, which should crown their various forms of struggle that have defeated the enemy's newest repressive technological means.

O our heroic masses, as we stood today at the threshold of a new situation imposed by your intifadah and your sacrifices on the political map—a new situation which is represented in the declaration of the independent Palestinian state and call for a just peace, we found a retreat in the U.S. position during the sessions of dialogue with the Palestinian leadership as well as a U.S. reservation about ways to activate the peace process. This will create opposition and serious questions among our masses regarding the feasibility and purpose of that dialogue. We also denounce the frenzied U.S. opposition of Palestine's efforts to become a member of the international institutions.

As we find ourselves face to face with the current obstacles, we believe that the continuation and escalation of the intifadah is the only option for our people to obtain freedom and independence. Therefore, proceeding from the PLO's long-term strategy, the Unified National Leadership stresses the following:

1. The agents: We reiterate the need for all the cadres of the strike forces and the popular committees to abide by discipline for fear of confusion that may allow the enemy to exploit the phenomenon in the battlefield and in the media. Hence, we have to wait and make sure before leveling any hasty accusations and to refer to the highest levels before carrying out the rules or sending messages of warning and threats. There should also be room for repentance, and the method of reform and monitoring should be used as a primary option before inflicting punishments.

2. The official contacts with the Israelis: The Unified National Leadership reiterates the need to boycott all political contacts with the official members of the Israeli Government. The Unified National Leadership also stresses that the Israeli street is a legitimate and complementary arena for the intifadah's program and action. Therefore, the oriented media activity approved by the Unified National Leadership and aimed at expanding the circle of those who support our just struggle against the occupation and who recognize our right to self-determination and the PLO's legitimate represntation of our people is a necessary activity and forms an indivisible part of our struggle to entrench the independence of our state, which was declared in accordance with the Palestine National Council's resolutions in Algiers.

3. The study: Seeking education is part of our struggle. Consequently, the Unified National Leadership asks all our students to concentrate on class time and distinguish between this part of their struggle and their other duties, which may be carried out after class time outside the schools in order to give no opportunity or justification for the enemy to close the schools and carry out the policy of stultification against our people. Student are required to stage strikes only during comprehensive strikes, which are officially called for, and not to respond to spontaneous strikes that may be staged by some people.

4. The popular and unity-seeking committees: The Unified National Leadership calls for working as soon as possible, out of a unity-oriented perspective, and on democratic and revolutionary bases, to unify all cadres of battalions and struggle as well as the cadres of the various factions of the popular army within the ranks of the unity-seeking strike forces to foil the schemes of the enemy which exploits fragmentation and disunity to achieve its objectives. Besides, the leadership calls upon them to halt once and for all the issuance of any statements carrying any signatures other than that of the Unified National Leadership so as to foil the designs of the enemy which resorts to the issuance of statements bearing false signatures with the aim of fragmenting the Palestinian national ranks, creating confusion, and making citizens doubt each other.

5. Boycotting the enemy's organs and products: The Unified National Leadership, while greeting the heroes of Gaza who are rebelling against magnetic cards and saluting our people who have struggled and offered sacrifices in their boycott of the enemy's organs, departments, tax-collecting agencies, and products, renews the call for our masses appealing to them to go ahead in their disobedience-based struggle and in their boycott of the enemy's products—each in accordance with his capabilities and circumstances.

In this regard, the Unified National Leadership reaffirms its call for those working with the organs of the Civil Administration to resign, except those working in the health and education sectors. It also reiterates its call for boycotting and pursuing those working in the tax-collecting agencies.

6. The Unified National Leadership calls upon the masses of our militant people to observe the days of general strike and safeguard the sanctity entailed in observing such strike days.

7. The Unified National Leadership calls upon our masses to refrain from bringing in gifts subject to customs via the bridges, as this phenomenon gives the occupation authorities the chance to earn huge revenues that bolster their economy.

8. The Unified National Leadership appeals to the administration of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] to be fair to its employees and to treat them on equal footing with their colleagues in Gaza. The Unified National Leadership also appeals to the UNRWA employees to take their time before launching any measures that might harm the interests of students and those benefiting from the UNRWA services, with the understanding that the issue will be submitted to the PLO for study and consideration.

O our heroic masses: While awaiting the anniversaries of the black September, the Sabra and Shatila massacre, and the massacres of Palestinians throughout the homeland with wide open eyes which are full of confidence in the future, we would like to dedicate this month to mark the anniversary of martyrs whose blood has fallen on the path of struggle until liberation and national independence. While saluting the spirit of steadfastness, sacrifices, and bountiful offerings embedded within you, the Unified National Leadership asks you to carry out the following militant activities:

—Saturday, 9 September is to be observed as a day of general strike to mark the beginning of the 22d month of the intifadah.

—Saturday [as heard], 12 September, the day on which the anniversary of the birth of the noble prophet [Muhammad] falls: On this great occasion, the Unified National Leadership extends its congratulations to the masses of our struggling masses calling for marking this day through further clashes and confrontations with the occupation troops and the herds of settlers.

—Friday, 15 September should be the day for beginning the winter time in the State of Palestine. Clocks must be set back 1 hour .

—13, 14, 15, 16 September—The days preceding the massacre of the 20th century, the Sabra and Shatila massacre, must be dedicated to mobilization, making preparations, and whetting the resolve in preparation for the black day. The strike forces, the popular committees, and the militant forces must make their full preparations.

—17, 18, 19 September are to be observed as days of Palestinian anger to mark the passing of the convoys of martyrs. Black banners are to be hoisted on the rooftops of houses and buildings and also on top of electricity and telephone poles. Black banners must be hoisted in all areas. Besides, Palestinian flags must also be hoisted and marches must be staged in all areas of our occupied state. Let clashes and confrontations be initiated on these days. Let the earth quiver under the feet of the occupation army.

—17 September, at 1000 hours Palestinian time, a 1-minute cessation of all activities is to be observed in all areas of our occupied state. Means of transportation must stop and their occupants must get off. In addition, our sons the students and their teachers must stand and observe a minute of silence during classes in reverence toward our martyrs and to immortalize their good deeds. Afterward, the Palestinian National Anthem is to be recited.

—18 September, Monday, is to be observed as a day of general strike in solidarity with the heroic Gazan workers. On that day, all labor movements must be called upon to vindicate our workers' struggle against racism and repression.

—22 September, Friday, is to be observed as a day of general strike in solidarity with our heroic prisoners in all the occupation prisons and jails and also with deportees.

—23 and 24 September are to be observed as days of confrontations and activities and manifestations of social solidarity.

Let us remain together on the path of the victorious intifadah until the attainment of victory.

PLO's Hurani Denies 'Arafat-Al-Asad Meeting

JN0509141189 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 4 Sep 89 p 14

[By Fathi al-Barqawi in Tunis]

[Text] In a statement to AL-BAYAN, PLO Executive Committee Member 'Abdallah Hurani denied that Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat officially met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Tripoli, Libya the day before yesterday [2 September].

Hurani said the two presidents did not hold talks while they were in Tripoli for the 1 September Revolution celebrations and the General People's Congress session.

The Palestinian official clarified that the Libyan protocol officials intentionally assigned two seats next to each other for 'Arafat and al-Asad. However, the two presidents only exchanged platitudes befitting such occasions.

Hurani concluded his statement saying that there is nothing new in Palestinian-Syrian relations, which recently witnessed tensions and mutual accusations, especially at the press conference held by 'Arafat in the Jordanian capital, In Amman, 'Arafat rejected a Syrian offer of waging fedayeen operations across Syrian borders.

PFLP-GC Issues Statement on Israeli Raid

JN0509174489 Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1635 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] A responsible military source at the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has stated the following: At 0200 yesterday, Monday, 4 September 1989, Zionist enemy warplanes raided one of our bases at Majdal Balhis town in Western al-Biqa'. Our ground anti-aircraft weapons confronted the enemy warplanes, forcing them to drop their missiles from a very high altitude and preventing them from achieving their aims. The raid resulted in the slight wounding of three civilians from the town.

The PFLP-GC stresses that the Zionist acts of aggression will not soften its resolve to continue its armed struggle policy; it will continue to confront all enemy and agent schemes inside and outside [the occupied territories]. The PFLP-GC firmly stands against the deviationist and capitulationist 'Arafatist cliques, which try to kill the intifadah [uprising] through successive concessions to the enemy leadership.

We in the PFLP-GC pledge to our masses and people in Palestine and abroad that we will continue to be faithful to the principles and goals of our revolution until the land and man are liberated.

Algeria

Egypt's Mubarak Reportedly Plans Official Visit

NC0509201789 Paris AFP in English 1909 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Algiers, Sept 5 (AFP)—Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is to pay an official visit to Algeria Thursday and Friday, informed sources said here Tuesday. The visit will seal the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries in November after an 11-year break.

Mr. Mubarak will be accompanied by senior government officials including Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Butrus Ghali.

Algeria issued an invitation for Mr. Mubarak to visit during a trip to Algiers by Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid in March.

Mr. Mubarak will arrive in Algiers after visits to Nouakchott and Dakar, where he is mediating in a dispute between Senegal and Mauritania.

Egypt

MENA Confirms Mubarak To Visit Algeria

NC0509220089 Cairo MENA in English 2106 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Belgrade, Sep 5 (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak of Egypt will be visiting Algeria on the heels of his forthcoming few hours' Wednesday visit to Mauritania, MENA learned.

Mubarak Speaks to TANJUG, MENA Directors

LD3108130689 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1115 GMT 31 Aug 89

["Pool" item]

[Text] Cairo, August 31 (TANJUG)—Egyptian President Husni has stated that that the withdrawal of all troops, without exception, is the only solution for the stability and independence of Lebanon.

The Egyptian president made the statement in an interview given to the directors-general of TANJUG AND MENA, Mihailo Saranovic and Moustafa Naguib, respectively, whom he received in his Cairo residence. President Mubarak gave the interview in connection with the ninth non-aligned summit which opens in Belgrade on Monday.

President Mubarak, the current chairman of the Organization of African Unity, has in the past few days held intensive talks with Arab statesmen on a joint action in the case of Lebanon, on a quest of a solution to the Palestinian question and on a mediation in the border dispute between Mauritania and Senegal.

The Egyptian president said that he expected of the Non-Aligned Summit in Belgrade to help resolve world problems, but set out, in that context, that it was not easy for 102 countries and movements to agree on all points.

The Egyptian president stressed that the debt and other economic problems were the number one problem of the non-aligned and other developing countries.

President Mubarak said that, if the rich countries, themselves, did not consider the debt problem as it should be and did not find a solution for it, such a development would be catastrophic not only for the developing countries but also the developed. He specified that the developed countries' production would decline in such an event and the world would fall into a recession, as was the one in 1930, which would affect both the "haves" and the "have nots."

In this context, Mubarak called for economic cooperation amongst the nonaligned and for the opening of a north-south dialogue. He said he believed that such a dialogue was significant and that parties to it should understand one another because this was the problem of the poor as well as the rich, so that the dialogue should be conducive to a solution favourable for both sides.

Mubarak expected that the Belgrade summit would again extend support for the Palestinian cause. He noted that the PLO had made many concessions which passed without reactions by the Israeli side. He added that the movement of the nonaligned would continue upholding the Palestinian cause.

He said that nobody had organized the Palestinian uprising intifadah [uprising] which was going on for the second year now, and the end of which depended on Israel.

In assessing the situation in Africa, Mubarak pointed out that there were intentions to sow dissensions between the Arabs and 'Black Africa.'

There is an attempt to generate such a conflict but the struggle between Arabs and Africans is sheer fiction, said Mubarak and added that all those living on African soil are Africans no matter the colour of their skin or their religion. He said that it was not in the interest of any country or any continent to have such conflicts aroused. Whoever was doing this was not wishing stability to countries in the African Continent, said Mubarak in presenting separate examples of aggravation of this kind—or attempts at aggravation—in South Africa, Angola, and Burundi.

The summit should make the Nonaligned Movement much more active for many things could be put forward and, at all events, Yugoslavia was now hosting the summit the second time as a result of its role within the

movement of the nonaligned—said Mubarak in conclusion to his first news-agency interview given to Yugoslavia's TANJUG and Egypt's MENA.

Mubarak Receives Sidqi, Abu-Ghazalah, 'Ubayd

NC0209124389 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1153 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 2 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu-Ghazalah, assistant to the president; and Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of state for administrative development, at the presidential palace this afternoon.

Sidqi Examines IMF Contacts, New Tax

NC0209175689 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1426 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Cairo, 2 Sep (MENA)—Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi said Egypt has nearly completed the letter of intent to the IMF, noting that there are still some points which Egypt will have to discuss with the IMF delegation which will arrive in Cairo within the next 2 weeks.

Asked about the tax on Egyptians working abroad, which will be enacted within days, the prime minister said the tax applies to government and public sector employees who are on loan or leave from their positions at home to work abroad. Any citizen who is not in these two categories—government and public sector employees—is not subject to that tax. [passage omitted]

Concerning the prime minister's working schedule in the near future, Dr Sidqi mentioned that he has important tasks ahead, chief of which is preparing for the upcoming Arab Cooperation Council prime ministers meeting as well as Egypt's talks with the IMF.

As for his meeting with President Husni Mubarak today, Dr Sidqi said: I met with President Mubarak today to thank his excellency and greet him after my return from medical treatment abroad.

Abu-Ghazalah Received by French Premier Rocard

NC0509173889 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Today French Prime Minister Michel Rocard received Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu-Ghazalah, assistant to the Egyptian president, who is visiting France. Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister for cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; Ahmad Sidqi, Egyptian ambassador to Paris; and an accompanying delegation also attended the meeting.

During their hour-long meeting at the French prime minister's office, Rocard and Abu-Ghazalah discussed the progress of the economic and financial reform program in Egypt and of Egyptian development efforts.

The French prime minister expressed appreciation for these efforts and asserted that France will continue developing its ties with Egypt in all areas.

ACC Members Sign Agreement on Industry Council

NC3008151589 Cairo MENA in English
1028 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Alexandria, Aug 30 (MENA)—Competent officials of the four-state Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] today signed the statutes for founding the higher council of the industry federations and chambers in the ACC member states.

Dr 'Adil Jazzarin, chairman of the Federation of Egyptian industries, signed for Egypt and his counterparts signed for Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen.

Jazzarin is leading Egypt's delegation to the second meeting of the industry federations and chambers of the four countries being held here.

The signing of the statutes comes in accordance with the agreement on the establishment of the ACC of February 16, 1989 which underlines the need to realise economic integration among members states through coordinating their economic policies and establishing a common market as a step towards attaining the Arab common market goal.

Interior Minister Departs for ACC Meeting

NC0109154489 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1430 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 1 Sep (MENA)—Interior Minister Zaki Badr left Cairo for Baghdad this afternoon on a 2-day visit.

In a predeparture statement, Badr said that he will attend the meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] interior ministers which will be held in Baghdad to discuss cooperation in security fields.

He said the ministers will discuss cooperation in fighting crime, narcotics trafficking, and forgery. He added that the ACC member states are coordinating their activities in fighting crime and training and exchanging experts.

Returns From ACC Meeting

NC0209201989 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1955 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Cairo 2 Sep (MENA)—Interior Minister Zaki Badr and the accompanying delegation returned to Cairo from Baghdad tonight after attending the first meeting of the Arab Cooperation Council's interior ministers there. [passage omitted]

Ghali Congratulates Chad, Libya on Agreement

NC3108183289 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that Egypt congratulates Chad and Libya on the agreement signed by the two countries in Algiers to settle the dispute over the Aozou strip peacefully.

Dr Ghali said this agreement is a victory for Africa as a whole and a model to be followed in resolving all other African disputes.

Dr Ghali said the agreement had provided experience on the peaceful settlement of African disputes in an African framework which should be used in the future.

PDRY President Stops Over, Delivers Comments

NC3108150189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 31 Aug (MENA)—Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], stopped over at Cairo airport this morning while en route from Aden to Tripoli, Libya, to attend the 1 September revolution anniversary celebrations before going on to Belgrade to attend the Nonaligned Movement summit.

Al-'Attas was received at the airport by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, the PDRY ambasador, and the staff of the PDRY Embassy.

Al-'Attas spent 1 hour at the airport before leaving for Tripoli. He was seen off by Dr al-Janzuri.

In a statement before his departure, the PDRY chairman underlined the depth of relations betwen Egypt and the PDRY. He said: My meeting with Dr al-Janzuri dealt with various aspects of cooperation and ties between our two countries.

Regarding the situation in Lebanon, the PDRY chairman called for more intensive Arab efforts to tackle the situation there quickly and decisively and on the basis of respect for Lebanon's sovereignty to restore the unity of this country which has been wrecked by 15 years of division and war. He expressed his belief that these efforts must be based on the Casablanca summit resolutions and should support the efforts of the tripartite committee which was created for that purpose. He said that the tripartite committee should continue its task of tackling the Lebanese issue regardless of the obstcales it faces and should be confident, patient, and optimistic, particularly as it has an opportunity to submit the results of its work to an Arab summit which will be held within 6 months. He also called on all Arab leaders to pay close attention to the committee's work and to continue their efforts to find an Arab solution to the Lebanese problem.

Tapes Said To Contain Iranian Activists Orders

PM3008133589 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Aug 89 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "Sources in Cairo Tell AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Recorded Assignments to Iranian Organization Members From Organ Responsible For Exporting Revolution in Tehran"]

[Excerpts] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau—Judicial sources in Cairo have stated to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the cassette tapes seized from the members of the organization which was working for Iran and was uncovered recently carry the assignments sent by the Iranian leaderships operating within the organ responsible for exporting the revolution in Tehran.

The sources said that the Egyptian Supreme State Security Prosecution Office has decided to entrust a specialist from Cairo Radio with erasing these tapes, which carry the voice of the Iranian Abu Rachid and the organization's founder Abu Iman, and also contain an assignment for some organization members to recruit new numbers of Egyptian citizens, arrange induction cources for them, and choose suitable ones for military training.

The assignment emphasizes the expansion of recruitment operations to include new geographical regions and other social groups.

The sources added that the interrogation of the members of the Iranian organization uncovered recently will resume this week, immediately after the completion of the preliminary interrogations of the members of the new communist organization uncovered last Thursday. [passage omitted]

The sources said that the new investigations will provide further corporeal evidence of the activities of that organization, whose objective is to change conditions in some Arab states, not Egypt alone, with a view to seize key positions in these states, along the lines of what happened in Iran. [passage omitted]

Muslim Leader on Arrests of Fundamentalists

NC3008172689 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Ma'mun al-Hudaybi, leader of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, has declared that the object of the Egyptian Government's recent campaign against officials of fundamentalist Islamic organizations is to defame these organizations in an effort to prevent people from joining them.

According to security sources in Cairo, police arrested 20 members of the Muslim Brotherhood who had recruited 80 children aged between 5 and 11.

Increased Share of M-1 Tank Production Demanded

JN0209180089 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 1 Sep 89 p 1

[By Hamdi Fu'ad]

[Excerpt] Washington—During important talks held by Dr Jamal al-Sayyid, minister of state for war production, Egypt demanded that its share of local production of M-1 Tank parts be increased.

During his visit to London, he will also discuss increasing the share of Egypt's joint production of tank guns with the British establishments. [passage omitted]

Syrian Presence, Role in Lebanon Analyzed

JN2708133089 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 25 Aug 89 p 4, 5

[Article by Makram Muhammad Ahmad: "Mourning the Ruins of Beirut"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] If the West is now showing some interest in what is happening in Lebanon, the only reason is that Lebanon has hostages the West wants. However, the bargaining market is outside Lebanon and the Lebanese solution. The bargaining market is present in Tehran where the ayatollahs are aspiring for a new deal of exchanging hostages for frozen assets. It is also present in Syria, where Damascus is aspiring for another deal linking silence over the Syrian role with handing over the hostages. It is present in Israel who wants the West to feel that it alone has the right solution. To cite Rabin, it is enough to kidnap a big fish from their side to exchange the hostages for it.

However, Lebanon might have to pay the price if the buying and selling is agreed on in any of these markets and it becomes clear that there must be some military action.

It is strange that the Syrians washed their hands of what recently happened in Suq al-Gharb. However, who in the whole world believes Damascus' statements insisting that the whole issue depends on the will of the Lebanese?

The Syrians went into Lebanon under the umbrella of an Arab decision and as part of an Arab force aiming to keep peace there. However, the Syrians took the entire role upon themselves and cut out the goals to suit their ambitions. The ambitions at that time were that Damascus gather some cards of the political game in its hand to increase its regional weight. Lebanon was one of those cards.

They marched in under the pretext of saving the Maronites from an alliance binding the Druze, Shiites, and Palestinians. They marched in blessed by the West for the civilized role Damascus took upon itself. At the end of the road they have reaped a different image after the whole of Lebanon is now hostage to Syrian hands.

They marched in under the pretext of preserving the Lebanese pan-Arab image. However, Lebanon's pan-Arab image disintegrated to the benefit of the sectarian princes who are divided amongst themselves and who have been moved oceans of revenge and blood away from each other.

They marched in under the pretext of protecting Lebanon from Israel. However, what happened was that the Syrian presence became an excuse for the Israeli presence, just as the Israeli presence became an excuse for the Syrians to stay.

What can Damascus gain from its stubborness after the dilemma has taken control of Lebanon?

If the Syrians believe that the Lebanese card could give them a more distinguished regional role, the Lebanese card has been burned down to ashes in their hands. The realities created by the Syrian presence on Lebanese territory contradicts all the goals Damascus ever imagined achieving in Lebanon.

The excuse of the Israeli presence is no longer a valid one for the Syrians to stay because political reform is a necessity, even in Syria's absence, after the civil war destroyed the old regime's formulation.

It is no longer a valid excuse for Damascus to say that its presence in Lebanon came upon the request of the legitimate government, because there is no constitutional legitimacy ruling Lebanon now due to Syrian stubborness.

There is no solution to this intense dilemma other than that Damascus accepts the real facts and resumes its cooperation with the Tripartite Committee so that an Arab solution to the Lebanese crisis is achieved.

The Arab solution is alone the one to save Syria's face.

The Arab solution is alone what could preserve whatever is left of Lebanon's pan-Arab identity.

The Arab solution is alone what could retrieve for the Arab will some of its capacity to control Arab destiny.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Greets Djibouti Leader in Tripoli

EA3108110089 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Summary] The president of the Republic of Djibouti, al-Haji Hassan Gouled Aptidon arrived at Tripoli Airport today at 1300 [1600 GMT]. He was welcomed by the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He is here to attend the 20th anniversary of Libya's great Fatih Revolution.

Receives Djibouti President

LD3108103689 Tripoli JANA in English 0821 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 31, (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)—A meeting was held between the leader of the revolution and Mr H Gouled, president of Djibouti, who arrived yesterday afternoon to join the festivities of the Libyan Arab people marking the 20th anniversary of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution.

The two sides discussed the brotherly relations between Great Al-Jamahiriyah and Djibouti.

Also present at this meeting was Mr M Farah, the minister of foriegn affairs and cooperation in Djibouti.

Somali President Arrives in Tripoli

EA3008200489 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] The Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party SRSP secretary general and president of Somalia, Comrade Mohamed Siad Barre, and a delegation led by him, arrived at Tripoli Airport at 1300 today to attend the 20th anniversary of the Libyan revolution.

President Siad and his delegation were warmly welcomed by the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, government officials, senior Army officers and diplomats, the Somali ambassador to Libya, and officials at the Somali Embassy there, as well as members of the public.

The Somali president, accompanied by the Libyan leader, inspected a guard of honor at Tripoli Airport representing units of the Libyan Army. The two countries' national anthems were played and a 21-gun salute fired in honor of the Somali president.

Comrade Siad Barre briefing the (?press) said his visit followed an invitation by the Libyan leader. He paid tribute to the brotherly welcome accorded him and his delegation in Libya. Comrade Siad congratulated the Libyan leader and people for the great achievements scored by them during the revolution.

President Siad and his delegation, which includes Somali foreign minister Abd al-Rahman Jama Barre, party representative in the Presidency Ayanleh Mohamed Siad, Commander of the Navy and Coastal Defense Brigade Admiral Sa'id Abdullah 'Umar, and officials from the Presidency and Foreign Ministry, watched a cultural dance of the Libyan people at Tripoli Airport.

The Somali president and his delegation made a brief stopover at Khartoum Airport, where we were warmly welcomed by the deputy chairman of National Salvation Revolution Command Brigadier Muhammad Salih, and foreign diplomats based in Sudan. Bilateral, Arab and international issues were discussed during the stopover.

Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi

EA3108203289 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Comrade Mohamed Siad Barre, held talks at state house, Tripoli, last night with the Libyan leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The talks between the two leaders centered on the improvement of cooperation and relations between the two brother states. Other Arab and international issues were also discussed.

Speaking during the reception, the SDR president, said the government and people of Somalia are striving to improve their country and to benefit from its various natural resources. He said Somalia is eager to see foreign investment in the country. He said such investment will be guaranteed. Comrade Siad also spoke of the need to strengthen unity, cooperation, and collaboration between Arab countries, and to solve existing problems. The president said it is of the utmost importance for Arab countries to hammer out a joint approach to these problems. He spoke about the need to solve the Lebanese crisis. Comrade Siad thanked the Libyan leader and the Libyan people for the warm welcome accorded to him and his delegation.

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Libyan leader, replying to Comrade Siad's speech, thanked the SDR president and his delegation for their readiness to participate in the celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of revolution. He said this was a clear indication of the good relations between the two countries. [passage omitted]

More on Al-Qadhdhafi Meeting

LD3108104189 Tripoli JANA English 0818 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 31, (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)—A meeting was held yesterday between the leader of the revolution and Mr M Barre, president of sisterly Somalia who arrived yesterday afternoon in Tripoli to join in the festivities of the Libyan Arab people commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Great Al-Fatih revolution.

At this meeting, the two sides discussed the brotherly relations between the two countries.

Present at this meeting was also Mr 'Abd al-Rahman Barre the foreign minister of Somalia.

Uganda's Museveni Confers With Somali Minister

EA0209214489 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Comrade Mohamed Siad Barre, Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] secretary general and Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] president, last night attended celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of

the Libyan revolution. The celebrations were held at the 1 December [as heard] (?Square) in Central Tripoli. [passage omitted]

A special reporter accompanying the president adds that Comrade Abd al-Rahman Jama Barre, the SDR foreign minister, who is a member of the president's delegation, had a meeting at his residence in Tripoli with President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda. The minister and the president discussed relations between the two countries, African affairs, and especially the problems of East Africa, Namibia, and South Africa, among other international issues.

More Foreign Guests Arrive for Celebration

LD3108162289

[Editorial report] Tripoli JANA in Arabic and English at 0708 GMT on 31 August begins carrying a further series of Tripoli-datelined reports on the arrival of foreign dignitaries participating in the celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the Al-Fatih revolution.

As of filing time, the arrivals reported by JANA include: Ahmad Mohamed Lamine Ould N'diaye, permanent secretary of the Mauritanian Military Committee for National Salvaltion; Yaovo Adodo, Togolese foreign minister; Didier Ratsiraka, president of Madagascar; Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen; El Hadj Omar Bongo, president of Gabon; Tadist Tamirath, described by JANA as "president of the Central Committee and president of the Ethiopian Workers Union; and Colonel Mamadou Baldet, Guinean interior minister.

JANA also reports the arrival of an Iranian delegation headed by Mohammad Sadeq Khalkhali, "member of the Islamic Majlis in Iran." Khalkhali is quoted as stressing the depth of relations between Iran and Libya, and pointing out that "Iran is with the Great Jamahiriyah against imperialism and zionism."

Tripoli television in Arabic at 1415 GMT on 31 August begins a relay of the celebrations which includes the arrival of the following leaders: Lieutenant-General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council; Jerry Rawlings, president of Ghana; Zine el Abidine Ben Ali, president of Tunisia; Chadli Benjedid, president of Algeria; Joaquim Alberto Chissano, president of Mozambique; and King Hassan II of Morocco, who disembarks from his ship. The arrival of Moroccan Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki and Interior Minister Driss Basri is noted in a separate JANA report.

Egypt's Wali Arrives in Tripoli for Anniversary

LD3108121389 Tripoli JANA in English 1200 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli 31 Aug (JANA)—Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture of fraternal Egypt, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Tripoli this morning to take part in the Libyan Arab people's festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the al-Fatih revolution.

PDRY's al-'Attas Comments in Tripoli; Departs

EA0109162189 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, along with the delegation accompanying him, arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a visit to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to participate in the 20th anniversary of the [word indistinct] 1 September revolution. [passage omitted]

In a tent prepared for receiving distinguished delegations, Brother al-'Attas made a press statement before a large gathering of Arab and foreign pressmen in which he congratulated the masses of the Libyan Arab people, the 1 September revolutionaries, and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, wishing them more success and progress, and expressing his pleasure at complying with the invitation from his brother, Col al-Qadhdhafi, to take part in the celebrations of the 1 September revolution.

He said: We have come from Aden, carrying with us feelings of affection, brotherhood, and appreciation, and feelings of heartfelt joy for the people of the Jamahiriyah, the 1 September revolutionaries, Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the heroes, and for the 20th anniversary of this revolution, which opened vast horizons in the revolutionary struggle for freedom not just at the level of the nationalist Arab movement, but also at a world level.

He affirmed that the 14 October and 1 September revolutions are bound by ties of revolutionary struggle and [words indistinct] for which the two peoples and their participants were struggling. He also pointed out that the two countries and peoples stand in one joint trench of struggle against colonialism, imperialism, Zionism, and backwardness; for the sake of progress, peace, and love among peoples.

In reply to a question about the plan of the unionist leader of the 1 September revolution, which he had presented to Arab kings and presidents, and Democratic Yemen's stand towards it, Brother al-'Attas said: We in Democratic Yemen have welcomed this plan and we are of the opinion that we should work side by side so that the unity of our Arab nation is achieved. [words indistinct] We thank Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi for this initiative and all the revolutionary initiatives being presented by the 1 September revolution. He affirmed that these initiatives express the originality of these people [words indistinct] who believe that there is no strength except through unity, cohesion, and joint action. He said that these bases meant the 1 September leadership continually presented initiatives at the level of unified Arab action.

He added: We consider the plan of Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on Arab union as a revolutionary action which aims to achieve the unity of our Arab nation [words indistinct] so that it becomes a force which beneficially exploits its material and human resources, as well as its geographical position in the world. He said the plan deserves total attention. [passage omitted]

Later, Brother al-'Attas visited the residence of Col al-Qadhdhafi that was bombed by American forces.

Brother al-'Attas this morning stopped over at Cairo International Airport. [passage omitted] In a statement to the Eyptian media, Brother al-'Attas expressed thanks for the friendly reception during his stopover at Cairo, pointing out the deep relations binding Democratic Yemen and the sisterly Arab Republic of Egypt.

Replying to a question about the situation in Lebanon, he pointed out that what was happening there demanded the unification of Arab efforts to reach a quick and decisive treatment for the situation. This treatment should be based on respect for Lebanese sovereignty and the restoration of the unity of the people of Lebanon, who had been torn by divisions and wars for 15 years.

He stressed the need to unify efforts on the basis of the resolutions of the Casablanca summit and said that the efforts of the tripartite committee should be supported, no matter how many difficulties it faced, so that it could implement its task to resolve the Lebanese issue. Brother al-'Attas stressed the importance of maintaining vigilance, patience, and optimism and of continuing work, and said that Arab leaders should pay great attention to guarantee an Arab solution to the Lebanese problem.

On the Zionist practices in the occupied territories, he said: They are hideous in all senses, but our people, through their valiant uprising, are stronger than all the weapons of Zionist destruction. He expressed confidence in the aims achieved by the uprising in setting up the Palestinian state. [passage omitted]

Chissano Welcomed by Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi

MB3108183289 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Correspondent Maria Cremilde Massinga report from Tripoli —live or recorded]

[Text] It is from Tripoli, the capital of Libya, the country of the Green Revolution, that we speak to you. President Joaquim Chissano is in this country to attend the Libyan revolution's 20th anniversary tomorrow.

The presidential aircraft touched down at Tripoli's (Naitschiga) military airport at precisely 1705. President Joaquim Chissano was received by leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Military security forces were strongly in evidence. President Joaquim Chissano was greeted with the usual military honors reserved for heads of state. The military apparatus was unveiled even before the presidential aircraft landed, when two modern MiG's accompanied the presidential aircraft during the last few minutes of its flight before landing.

Afterwards, the motorcade left the airport. During its trip to the hotel, a military helicopter flew over the motorcade along the new Tripoli avenue alongside the Mediterranean.

In Tripoli, the dominant color is green: It appears in flags, characters, the color of the housing, and the natural green of the vegetation. Gigantic, colorful balloons—mostly green—have the figure 20 written on them to mark the 20th anniversary of the Libyan revolution tomorrow.

According to the program, President Joaquim Chissano and his team will today visit Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's residence, which was the target of a U.S. raid in 1986. Tomorrow will be the day of the celebration. Several heads of state will convene in the Libyan capital.

The heads of the state of the Arab Maghreb Union may take this opportunity to hold a group meeting. Political observers say the five heads of state are expected to discuss the eventual strengthening of the joint parliament, which includes representatives from Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Libya, and Tunisia.

In his visit to Libya, President Joaquim Alberto Chissano is accompanied by his wife, Mrs Marcelina Chissano, Information Minister Teodato Hunguana, and diplomatic adviser Francisco Madeira, among other officials in his delegation.

Ugandan, Burkinabe Leaders Arrive for Celebration

LD0109210689

[Editorial Report] Tripoli JANA in English at 0838 GMT on 1 September reports the arrival in Tripoli on 31 August of Yoweri Museveni, president of the Republic of Uganda, to participate in the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Al-Fatih revolution.

Tripoli JANA in English at 0841 GMT on 1 September reports the arrival in Tripoli on 31 August of Captain Blaise Compaore, president of Burkina Faso, to participate in the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Al-Fatih revolution.

Al-Qadhdhafi Hosts Banquet for Guests 31 August

LD0109112189 Tripoli JANA in English 0854 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, al-Fatih [September] 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution gave a banquet last night in honour of the guests of the Libyan Arab People: Presidents Chadli Bendjedid, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, Hafiz al-Asad and King Hassan II, General al-Bashir, Haydar al-'Attas, Muhammad Barre, Hassan Gouled, Yasir 'Arafat, Omar Bongo, Didier Ratsiraka,

Flight Captain Rawlings, Captain Compaore, Denis Sassou-Nguesso, Lieutenant-General [name indistinct] Birnardo, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, the heads of the delegations of sisterly and friendly countries joining the Libyan Arab people in its festivies on the 20th anniversary of the Great al-Fatih Revolution.

Present also at this banquet were members of the Secretariat of the General People's Congress, the secretary and members of the General People's Committee and heads of the diplomatic missions accredited to Great al-Jamahiriyah.

Malof and Ballad (Muwash-Hat) Libyan Arab troupe conducted some folkloric performances and songs.

President Daniel Ortega Arrives in Tripoli

LD0109103289 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0920 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 1 Sep (JANA)—President Daniel Ortega of the Republic of Nicaragua and his accompanying delegation arrived at Mu'atigah Airport this morning on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah to take part in the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the great 1 September Revolution. An official welcoming ceremony was accorded to President Daniel Ortega; Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir led those who welcomed him.

Lauds Al-Qadhdhafi, Libya

LD0109200189 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1033 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Speech by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega at meeting of Libyan General People's Congress in Tripoli on 1 September; Ortega speech translated from original Spanish—live]

[Text] I do not have the good fortune of speaking Arabic and you do not speak Spanish, but we have the good fortune of speaking the language of peoples. [applause] The language of peoples is the language of independence, of sovereignty, of revolution. [applause] You are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the al-Fatih revolution, and we who have fought for liberation, as well as the peoples who are still fighting to achieve independence, still fighting for their self-determination, are celebrating it with you. We, the Sandinista revolutionaries of Nicaragua, are celebrating this 20th anniversary; [applause] we the revolutionaries of Latin America and the Caribbean. We are also celebrating it with the heroic Palestinian people, with the heroic people of Namibia, and with the heroic people of South Africa.

You, Libyan brothers, know how to resist and how to win. With brother Al-Qadhdhafi, we have shared difficult moments, hard moments, moments of grief, but we also rejoice at this 20th anniversary of the al-Fatih revolution. [applause] We peoples have a sole enemy: Imperialism. [applause] Imperialism has made war on the Libyan people as it has made war on the Nicaraguan people. Reagan has greatly harmed the Libyan people. Reagan tried to kill the revolution in Libya; Reagan tried to kill the revolution in Nicaragua. But where is Reagan now? [applause] Reagan had to go and Al-Qadhdhafi remained in Libya. [applause] Reagan had to go and the Libyan people are today proudly celebrating the 20th anniversary of its revolution. [applause] This has been made possible by the steadfastness of brother Al-Qadhdhafi, by the steadfastness of the Libyan people, because of the justice which is on the side of the Libyan people, and because of historic right, which is also on the side of the Libyan people.

Libyan brothers, I bring you the solidarity in arms of the people of Sandino. [applause] We are facing the same enemy in different trenches. We must unite to defeat that enemy and then victory will be assured for all peoples. The enemy tries to divide us. The enemy has succeeded in dividing us. But we are obliged to unite to save the future of our peoples.

Long live the al-Fatih revolution! [applause]
Long live the people of Libya! [applause]
United, we—Libya and Nicaragua—will triumph! [applause]
United, we, the peoples of the Third World, will triumph! [applause]

Presents Gift to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD0209131489 Tripoli JANA in English 0905 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, al fatih [September] JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The president of the Republic of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega presented a gift to the leader of the revolution during the climax of the massive festivities celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution.

The present consisted of a piece from an American warplane shot down by the Nicaraguan air defences and a painting depicting the heritage of Nicaragua and its struggle for freedom.

The leader of the revolution saluted, during the presentation of the gift, the struggle of the Nicaraguan people spearheaded by the Sandinistan revolution.

Al-Asad's Activities in Tripoli Reported

JN0109130089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Radio correspondent's dispatch from Tripoli — recorded]

[Excerpt] Gentlemen, God bless you. We greet you from Tripoli on the 2nd day of President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah where a meeting took place last night between President Hafiz al-Asad, Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution.

This meeting was held before the dinner banquet given by al-Qadhdhafi to the heads and members of the delegation participating in the 20th anniversary of the 1 September Revolution.

After the banquet, President Hafiz al-Asad met with Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali. During the two meetings, they discussed the developments and events in the region and the Arab situation in general.

This morning, President Hafiz al-Asad, along with the heads of the delegations participating in the festivities, attended the extraordinary session of the General People's Congress consisting of the secretaries of the People's Congresses, People's Committees, and professional unions, federations, and societies from all parts of the Jamahiriyah.

Many speeches were delivered during the session. Some were made by Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali; Haydar Abu-Bakr-al-'Attas, president of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY]; Lieutenant General Hasan al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council; and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega. The session was still underway up to the time this dispatch was broadcast. [passage omitted]

More on al-Asad's Meetings

JN0109161489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Radio correspondent's dispatch from Tripoli — recorded]

[Excerpts] Tripoli—Gentlemen, good evening. We greet you once again from Tripoli, capital of the Libyan Arab Jamahiryah, where a meeting was held at 1500 today between President Hafiz al-Asad, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid in one of the halls where the heads of delegations participating in the festivities of the 20th anniversary of the 1 September revolution are residing. After 45 minutes passed, President Hafiz al-Asad and President Chadli Benjedid continued discussions on their own. The discussions in these two meetings centered on the current events in the Arab arena. [passage omitted]

As we indicated in our previous message, President Hafiz al-Asad attended the extraordinary session held by the General People's Congress of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. In this session, the head of the General People's Congress announced the Congress' decision to grant President Hafiz al-Asad the medal of steadfastness of the first class. He also announced congressional decisions to grant the heads of the delegations the medals of al-Jihad and al-Fatih and a decision to grant Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam the medal of al-Fatih of the first class. The head of the General People's Congress saluted in his speech President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian Arab people affirming the bonds of struggle joining the two fraternal Arab people for the sake of Arab unity. [passage omitted]

President Chadli Meets With Arab Leaders

LD0109195689 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Summary] The Jamahiriyah is today commemorating the 20th anniversary of the great September revolution. President Chadli was today awarded the First Class Medal of the Combatant. On the sidelines of the celebrations; President Chadli met with President al-Asad of Syria and then Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. There was also a four-man meeting comprising President Chadli, President al-Asad, al-Qadhdhafi, and President Zine el Abdine Ben Ali. The four leaders reviewed a number of Arab issues. Moreover, leaders of the Arab Maghreb Union member states, namely President Chadli, al-Qadhdhafi, King Hassan II, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and major N'diaye, who is representing Colonel Maaouiya of Mauritania, also met.

Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi

LD0209152789 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1100 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Sep (JANA)—A meeting was held this morning in Tripoli between the brother leader of the revolution and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

Ends Tripoli Visit

LD0209153189 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1101 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 2 Sep (JANA)—President Chadli Bendjedid left Tripoli today after he had taken part in the Libyan Arab people's celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the great al-Fatih Revolution. An official send off ceremony was held at Tripoli International Airport, where Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir led those who saw him off. [passage omitted]

Moroccan King Holds Meeting on Board Ship

LD0109210789 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Summary] King Hassan's visit to Libya enters its 2d day. This afternoon, his majesty received on board his ship, the "Marrakesh," Presidents Chadli Benjedid and Zine El Abidine Ben Ali; Mr Mohamed Lemine Ould N'Diyane, minister and permanent secretary of the Mauritanian Military Council for National Salvation; and Major Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the leadership of the Libyan revolution.

Afterward, His Majesty King Hassan II hosted a luncheon banquet in honor of the Algerian and Tunisian

presidents, Messrs Chadli Bendjedid and Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and of Mr Mohamed Lemine Ould N'Diyane, minister and permanent secretary of the Mauritanian Military Council and Major Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the leadership of the Libyan revolution. The banquet was attended by Prime Minister Dr Azzedine Laraki; Mr Ahmed Osman, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; His Majesty's advisers; a number of ministers; the leaders of the political parties; His majesty's ambassadors to the five Maghreb states; a number of senior officers of the Higher Command of the Royal Armed Forces; and other prominent figures who are accompanying His Majesty King Hassan II on his trip to Libya.

Later, His Majesty King Hassan II received Mr Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Republic of Syria, who was accompanied by Vice President 'Abd ab-Halim Khaddam.

Receives Al-Qadhdhafi on Board

LD0209033889 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II received Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Libyan Revolution, aboard the ship "Marrakesh" tonight.

Moroccan Premier, Minister Depart Celebration

LD0109211389 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 2045 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Sep (JANA)—Dr Azeddine Laraki, prime minister of sisterly Morocco, and Brother Driss Basri interior minister in sisterly Morocco, have left Tripoli after taking part in the celebrations of the Libyan Arab people marking the 20th anniversary of the Great al-Fatih revolution.

Sudanese Prime Minister Calls For Arab Unity

EA0109211689 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC] and prime minister, addressed this morning's extraordinary sesssion of the Libyan General People's Congress in the grand people's hall, Tripoli.

His excellency said: I praise God for making it possible for us to share the joy of the brotherly Libyan people as they celebrate the 20th anniversary of their historic 1 September revolution, under the leadership of brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. This revolution was and will continue to be a revolution against injustice, subjugation, ignorance, poverty and disease. It was a revolution that liberated the Libyan man from the shackles of subordination, a revolution that stretched out its hand to assist all the oppressed peoples in all corners of the earth, making every conceivable sacrifice for the liberation of peoples.

Lt Gen 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir said: On behalf of your brothers in the NSRCC, and on behalf of the Sudanese people, I am here to share your joy and communicate to you the greetings and congratulations of your brothers in Sudan, their deep thanks for the Jamahiriyah's support for Sudan ever since the 1 September revolution 20 years ago. You have supported, helped, and backed us irrespective of changes of government or regime—an action which is indicative of the originality and generosity of the Libyan people.

Addressing the Libyan masses, the chairman of the NSRCC and prime minister said: I thank you, on behalf of our Sudanese brothers working and residing in the Jamahiriyah, for the hospitality and welcome they receive. We in Sudan will strive [word indistinct] for the day when a unified Arab state stretching from Marrakesh to Bahrain is born, when Palestine is liberated and celebrations take place in its capital, Jerusalem.

Lt Gen 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir declared: The Arab nation has enormous human and material potential, and the whole world knows this. It also knows that the Arab nation is strong when it unites. Hence, conspiracies to fragment the Arab nation and to prevent Arab unity multiply. But, under the conscious leadership of the Arab nation, unity will come about through the will of God, the sublime, and the wishes of the people.

The lieutenant general said: Everywhere the enemies of the Arab nation have studied history and grasped it. They know that when the weak Arab pastoral tribes in the Arab peninsula united and rose up, they were quickly able to destroy all the great powers existing at that time. They now fear the stirring of the giant from [word indistinct]. He is rising by the will of God, the sublime. [passage omitted]

Al-Bashir, President Museveni Discuss Garang

AB0209211789 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, 2 September (SUNA)—Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has informed Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al- Bashir, National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council chairman, that Colonel John Garang began a visit to Uganda recently and that he is still in the Ugandan capital, Kampala.

Lt Gen al-Bashir told SUNA that the Ugandan president, whom he met (?yesterday) [words indistinct] during the (?celebrations) marking the 20th anniversary of the 1 September revolution, informed him of Col Garang's concern that the Sudanese Government was preparing to mount an attack on his forces. Lt Gen al-Bashir added

that during his conversation with the Ugandan president, he refuted Col Garang's claims. He said the information was baseless since the Sudanese Government had extended the cease-fire for a 3d month, even though Garang had rejected this.

Lt Gen 'Umar al-Bashir, leader of the National Salvation Revolution, said that he told the Ugandan president that Sudan had set its mind on direct dialogue without any preconditions, and that all points in dispute could be discussed at negotiations. Lt Gen al-Bashir said that the Ugandan president promised him to convey the content of their discussions [word indistinct] to Col Garang as soon as he returned to Kampala after concluding his visit to the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

According to earlier press reports, Col John Garang paid a visit to Kampala recently, during which he met the Ugandan president.

Meanwhile, Lt Gen al-Bashir pointed out that the government had a peace plan which included proposals on Sudan's future government. Lt Gen al-Bashir said that the rehabilitation stage was linked to peace.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives International Visitors

LD0309114589

[Editorial Report] Tripoli JANA in English between 0806 GMT and 0813 GMT on 3 September carries eight one-sentence items, reporting various meetings by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli with various international leaders. All the items are datelined 3 September, but the date of the meetings is not specified. The following leaders are listed as having met al-Qadhdhafi: "President of the Republic of Somalia Siade Barre," "President of the Republic of Djibouti Hassan Gouled Aptidon," "Flight Captain Jerry Rawlings, the president of the Provisional National Defense Council in Ghana," "the President of the Republic of Gabon Hadj Omar Bongo," "President of the Republic of South Yemen Haydar Abu Bakr al'Attas," "Acting Prsident of the Republic of Laos Phoumi Vongvichit," "President of the Republic of Mozambique Joaquim Alberto Chissano," and "President of the People's Republic of Congo Denis Sassou-Nguesso."

Ghana's Rawlings Calls for Nonaligned Secretariat

AB0309135389 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has suggested the establishment of a Nonaligned Movement secretariat to keep member states informed of developments within the movement. He was speaking to newsmen after talks in Tripoli, Libya, with President Sassou-Nguesso of Congo. The two leaders attended the 20th anniversary of the Libyan Revolution.

Chairman Rawlings is of the view that if such a secretariat is established it will enable member countries to act collectively on issues affecting the movement. He said many African countries find themselves trapped between loyalty to their countries and their credibility to the Nonaligned Movement as well as the OAU. The leader of the revolution attributed this situation to the dominant relations between them and the colonial masters as well as the developed countries. He said because of this, regional groupings in Africa, that could have given economic backing to their political aspirations have broken up. Flight Lt Rawlings said if countries forming the Nonaligned Movement cannot count on the loyalty of each other, then they will find it difficult to achieve any of their objectives.

Staff Major Jallud Receives USSR's Vlasov

LD0209185189 Tripoli JANA in English 1820 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud has received this afternoon Mr Aleksandr Vlasov, premier of Federal Russia who is participating in the festivities of the Libyan Arab people in the 20th anniversary of the great Al-Fatih revolution.

Khalkali, Iranian Delegation Meets With Jallud

LD0309190789 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, Sept. 3, IRNA—The Islamic Republic's officials and people have always been standing beside Libya's revolution, announced Majlis Deputy Hojjat ol-Eslam Sadiq Khalkhali here today in a meeting with Member of Libya's Revolutionary Command Council Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud.

Khalkhali is heading a delegation to Libya to take part in celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of Libya's revolution.

"Our two revolutions share common stances against imperialism and Zionism," Khalkhali stressed.

In response, Jallud said Libya considers the Islamic Revolution of Iran as 'an anti-imperialist revolution' which destroyed American type of Islam and its reactionary base in Iran. "We have been and will always stand beside the Islamic revolution," Jallud said emphatically.

Noriega Daughters Hand Letter to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD0409101489 Tripoli JANA in English 0822 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, al-Fatih [September] 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution has received the two daughters of General Manuel Noriega, commander of the national defence troops in Panama.

They handed the leader of the revolution a written letter from their father.

France To Supply Libya With 'Nonlethal' Arms

JN0509153089 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 4 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that the French Government has recently agreed to supply the Libyan Armed Forces with some spare parts and nonlethal weapons. This is the first step of its kind since the French arms embargo against Libya came into effect in April 1983.

Informed Western sources said that the French military equipment to be sent to Libya includes spare parts for Libyan gunboats equipped with French Automat surface-to-surface missiles as well as spare parts for the Ratac and Rasit radars. Libya obtained 40 sets of these radars from France approximately 10 years ago.

These sources also said that the French decision appears to have been made at a high level within the French Government following France's growing belief that Libya has begun a moderate and peaceful policy toward Chad. These sources also quoted French officials as saying that the French Government does not intend to lift its embargo on selling major arms systems to Libya at present and that the equipment recently sent to Libya will be used for defensive purposes. The equipment had been frozen in French arsenals due to various political and financial factors.

Sudan

Al-Bashir Leads Delegation to Tripoli

EA3108200889 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] The president of the NSRCC [National Salvation Revolution Command Council] General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, met this morning at the Council of Ministers the personal representative of the UN secretary-general and UNICEF executive director, Mr James Grant. Following the meeting, Mr Grant stated that the meeting reviewed features pertinent to operation lifeline Sudan. He also said the meeting assured the operation's success in the process of transporting relief items to the southern regions and the continuation of the operation.

In another development Gen al-Bashir left this morning for Tripoli leading Sudan's delegation to participate in the 1st September Revolution celebration. While there, Gen al-Bashir will meet with his counterparts invited to the Libyan celebration. He will discuss with them features of common interest with regard to Libya and international questions. Gen al-Bashir will also explain to his counterparts the policies of the revolution and the efforts exerted to achieve peace in Sudan. He was seen off at Khartoum airport by members of the NSRCC and members of the Libyan brotherhood office in Khartoum. [Khartoum SUNA in English at 1619 GMT 31 August adds that, after leaving Tripoli, Al-Bashir will go to Belgrade, for the Nonaligned summit]

Al-Bashir Cited on 'Progress' in Ties With Iraq

JN3108074689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 31 Aug (INA)—Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council for National Salvation in Sudan, has said his talks in Baghdad with President Saddam Husayn laid new foundations for cooperation between the two fraternal countries in light of Iraq's total readiness to cooperate in all fields.

In a statement to INA correspondent today, he said that the coming days will witness remarkable and tangible progress in the ties between Sudan and Iraq, as certain agreements for cooperation in the military and economic fields have been signed. [passage omitted]

Says Iraq Supports Policies

EA3108183989 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Interview with Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir by unidentified reporters at Khartoum upon arrival from Baghdad—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage indistinct] [Reporter] During your (?reception) and your meetings with the Iraqi leaders, did you establish how the Iraqi leadership views the new leadership in Sudan?

[Al-Bashir] [Words indistinct] complete we come for the change that has taken place in the Sudan and the policies of the new Sudanese leadership. We found them ready to cooperate in all fields with the new administration in Sudan.

[Reporter] Lieutenant General, was there any connection between the recall of the Sudanese ambassador to Iran and your unexpected visit to Iraq?

[Al-Bashir] The visit was not really unexpected since it was announced in advance. The recall of the ambassador was in accordance with [word indistinct] investigations [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [question indistinct]

[Al-Bashir] I swear by God that when we recalled him, we did not intend to send him back unless the situation in Tehran was rectified. If they want to have him back, we basically recalled him before they rejected him. [sentence as heard] We do not want our ambassador to (?stay) there. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Brother president, you were accompanied by a delegation on this visit. Who was in this delegation and what did it achieve in Iraq?

[Al-Bashir] I was accompanied by Major General 'Uthman Ahmad Hasan, minister of state for defense, and 'Umar 'Ali 'Umar, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Commerce. The delegation wished to familiarize itself with Iraq's achievements since the war ended. We also wanted to thank the Iraqi brothers for their assistance to the Sudanese people and their Armed Forces, to thank them for their achievements in defending the Arab nation, and to congratulate them on their great victories at the battlefront. We also went there to sign a number of agreements on joint cooperation in the military and economic fields.

[Reporter] Mr President, JARIDAT AL-SUDAN. How do you view the future of relations between Sudan under your leadership and Iraq?

[Al-Bashir] God willing, there will be tangible and clear developments in relations with Iraq over the next few days. Relations with it will be similar to relations between any two Arab states sharing the same concerns, and encountering the same problems as other parts of the Arab world [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Lastly, Mr President, what were the most positive aspects of your visit to Iraq?

[Al-Bashir] The positive aspects of our visit to Iraq were, first of all, that we familiarized ourselves with Iraq, with the Iraqi brothers and Iraqi achievements. We were able to lay foundations for cooperation and for a new phase in relations between the two countries, God willing.

Deputy Prime Minister Reviews Egypt Trip

EA0409123589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2145 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] The Council of Ministers today held its regular meeting, chaired by Vice Chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council and deputy prime minister, Brigadier al-Zubayr Muhammad Salih. The interior minister, Staff Brigadier Faysal Abu-Salih, presented a report on his recent visit to Egypt. His excellency reviewed the outcome of discussions held between him, his accompanying delegation, and their Egyptian counterparts. He pointed out that the results of the talks will assist the relations which have developed between the two countries. He also referred to meetings he held with the Sudanese community and students studying in Egyptian institutes and universities, whom he briefed about political developments in Sudan.

The council also heard a report by the minister of finance and economic planning, Dr Sayyid 'Ali Zaki on the affiliation of specialized banks. These banks are: the Sudanese Estates Bank, the Industrial Bank of Sudan, the Agricultural Bank of Sudan, and the National Cooperative Development Bank. The report said these banks practice normal banking functions despite the specialization attributed to them. This will necessarily affect financial and investment policies. He also pointed to the need for coordination between the Finance Ministry and the quarters to which these banks belong so that the banks can carry out their tasks without fault.

Saudi Arabia Donates 100 Trucks, Sends Oil

EA0309195789 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] SUNA reports that 100 Mercedes trucks with a total capacity of 400 tonnes will be shipped from Jeddah this week as part of Saudi Arabia's support for Sudan. The agency reports that most of the Saudi oil aid for Sudan has already arrived and that the rest agreed upon will arrive toward the end of September.

Agreement Signed With Japan for Food Assistance

EA3108220589 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] An agreement on food assistance was concluded this morning between the minister of finance and economic planning and the Japanese Government for the year 1989. The minister of finance and economic planning, Dr Sayyid 'Ali Ahmad Zaki, signed on behalf of the Sudanese Government, while the Japanese charge d'affaires to Sudan signed on behalf of his Government.

Meanwhile, a responsible source in the Ministry of Finance disclosed to the Sudanese agency, SUNA, that the agreement amounts to 600,000,000 Japanese yen, about 5,000,000 U.S. dollars. The source added that the amount will be utilized in purchase of American wheat.

BBC: Referendum Planned for Shari'a Law

AB0509220689 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] The government in Sudan has confirmed that it will hold a referendum on shari'a law. The country's attorney general said in Khartoum that people would simply be asked to vote yes or no.

Official Reveals Hard Currency Surrendered

EA3108072589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Summary] Colonel Salah al-Din Muhammad Ahmad Karrar, member of the National Salvation Revolution Council and chairman of the economic committee, has revealed that over $100 million in hard currency has been handed over so far. He was speaking yesterday at a meeting with regular Army officers. The colonel is on a visit to certain areas of the central region.

Confiscated Party Assets To Be Distributed

EA0109215789 Khartoum SUNA in English 1625 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Sep (SUNA)—The confiscated properties of the dissolved political parties will be distributed

among hospitals and schools to [word indistinct] rehabilitating these utilities, AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH (ARMED FORCES) newspaper quoted member of the Command Council, Brig Faysal Madani, as saying. A workshop will be organised by regional governments and the national capital commission for extending assistance and necessary services to the damaged schools, said Brig Madani.

Council Member Checks Relief Supplies in South

EA3108111589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Brigadier Pio Yokwan, member of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC] and political supervisor general of the southern council, ended a visit to Kosti town today after acquainting himself with the special preparations of tugboats which [word indistinct] to the Upper Nile Region and which are loaded with relief supplies as part of the lifeline operation. His excellency made a speech on the occasion expressing the NSRCC chairman's appreciation of the efforts being made by river transport workers and international and voluntary organizations, he praised the role of the representative of the U.N. secretary general, [word indistinct] that the interest of the international organization in transporting relief to the affected people signified the world's interest in Sudan. He also affirmed the government's support for peace efforts.

Speaking to migrants at (Kananah) Camp, his excellency stressed the need for self-reliance by work in agricultural [word indistinct] without receiving relief supplies. He dealt with the revolution's desire to contain the suffering of citizens in all fields.

During the visit Brig Pio Yokwan also met officers, NCO's and soldiers of Kosti garrison where he was briefed on security conditions in the area, and he inspected the river transport headquarters in Kosti.

AFP Notes Government Releases 23 Detainees

AB0209095689 Paris AFP in English 1803 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 28 (AFP)—Sudan's military junta has freed 23 members of the Sudanese National Party who were detained last year by the previous civilian government for allegedly supporting the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army, the state news agency reported Monday.

All from the Nuba mountains region in the south of Kordofan Province, they were accused of plotting against the government and of incitement to racial hatred. The freed Nubians include former MP Harun Kaffy.

Explaining the release, provincial Governor Awadallah Muhammad Al Fath told the agency the government was sure Sudan's problems over unity should be settled apart from tribal and partisan affiliations.

SPLA Radio Cites Dismissals by Khartoum Junta

EA0109220789 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] sources in Khartoum say dismissals in the Sudanese army, police and prisons, in the judiciary and civil service continue unabated. Our sources say the junta has dismissed 294 police officers. In the prisons service seven top senior officers were among those dismissed. Their names are as follows: General Bashir Malik, Major General Muhammad Hasan al-Rifa'i, Brigadier Muhammad Sa'id Ibrahim, Brigadier 'Abd-al-Mun'im Hasan al-Tilip, Brigadier Dr Mahjub al-Tijani, Brigadier Musa 'Isa, and Colonel Ahmad Khalil al-Sa'im.

In the judiciary, 57 judges are reported to have been purged. Among them are: 'Abdallah al-Tawm, Hasan Mahmud, Ubayd Jismanah, Al-Rayah Widadallah, 'Abd-al-Rahman Sadiq, 'Abd-al-'Aziz Khamatu, Muhammad al-Ta'if al-Tahir, Babikr al-Quray, member of the judges committee, Taha Surij, Hasan Babikr, and a woman judge, Aminah Awad.

And in the health service our sources say a list of 90 medical doctors has been presented to the minister of health, Dr Shakir Sarraj, for dismissal, but the minister is hesitant to carry out the orders of the junta. Among the 90 doctors recommended for dismissal by the junta are: Dr Zaki al-Din Ahmad, Dr 'Abdallah al-Haj Musa, Dr Abidin Sharaf, Dr Musa 'Abdallah Hamid, and Dr Amal Abu-Bakr Arba.

Al-Bashir's Peaceful Intentions Questioned

EA0409201689 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Latuka 1120 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Hello listeners. As most of you may know by now, 'Umar al-Bashir announced a cease-fire when he came to power. But our people are still asking themselves whether 'Umar al-Bashir is genuinely determined to solve the country's problems peacefully. We say the answer is no because, after taking over power, he scrapped the peace agreement between the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] and the Democratic Unionist Party which was signed in Addis Ababa. Some days ago, you may also have heard 'Umar al-Bashir saying over the radio that if the SPLA rejected peace talks with his regime, he would launch a heavy attack on the SPLA. Listeners, this tells us that the peace issue has never been included on his regime's agenda. This is because he wants to impose his dictatorial ideas on the Sudanese people.

Tunisia

Ben Ali Departs Tripoli; Makes Statement

LD0209151189 Tripoli JANA in English 0912 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and the delegation in his company left Tripoli last night after taking part in the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the great Al-Fatih revolution.

Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi headed the party seeing off President Zine El Abidine at Tripoli International Airport.

Also taking part in the farewell ceremony were members of the General People's Committee and officers of the Libyan Armed Forces.

President Zine El Abidine made a statement to JANA expressing his thanks and gratitude to the leader of the revolution and the Libyan Arab people for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and the delegation in his company during their participation in the festivities of the 20th anniversary of the great Al-Fatih revolution.

He lauded the colossal civilisational achievements realised in Great Jamahiriyah thanks to the revolution.

He concluded his statement by wishing the Libyan Arab people further progress and prosperity under the judicious leadership of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi so as to carry on the task of the unification of the Arab nation.

President To Leave for NAM Summit in Belgrade

LD0309105989 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Excerpt] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali leaves today for Belgrade to take part in the ninth summit of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] countries. Tunisia, represented by President Ben Ali, will be in charge of vice chairmanship of the ninth nonaligned summit. [passage omitted]

Islamic Movement Communique Condemns Government

PM0509141089 Paris LE MONDE in French 5 Sep 89 p 4

[Michel Deure dispatch: "Islamic Movement Condemns Government's 'Injustices'"]

[Text] Tunis—After a silence of several weeks, the Islamic Movement Ennahdha (Renaissance) which reacted badly to the rejection of its application for recognition as a party last June, is again speaking out against a "regression" in Tunisian political life.

In a virulent communique, the movement draws up a list of the "injustices" suffered by many of its members and supporters "simply because of their religious convictions": dismissal of imams, preachers, and teachers, sanctions in the form of the arbitrary transfer of civil servants, arrests, the provocation of the faithful in the mosques, closure of businesses, a ban on some youth activities and cultural events (Footnote) (Government circles deny these facts which they describe as "malicious reports")....

The text also reports government "[illegible]ssment" of other unofficial political movements a[illegible]resses the view that such practices "ma[illegible] th[illegible]istration alone responsible for the consequen[illegible] of inciting people to take action outside the legal framework."

Faced with this situation which prevents him from carrying out his normal activities, Rached Ghannouchi, the "emir" of the movement, who has been on a foreign tour since May, has decided not to return to Tunisia for the time being, his friends have just announced. The explanation seems rather unconvincing, because Mr Ghannouchi has recently proved that he is not easily intimidated—and his life was at stake then.

There could therefore be other reasons for this self-imposed exile. In view of the fact that President Ben Ali recently announced that no new political party will be recognized until it has clearly defined the model of society which it advocates, perhaps Mr Ghannouchi prefers to step back while a far-reaching debate takes place within his movement between moderates and radicals?

Is he trying to avoid a trial of strength with the government whose formation he welcomed on 7 November 1987? Or is he trying to carefully handle the most impatient and extreme of his troops who never believed in the system's democratization and thus to give them guarantees? The two approaches could go hand in hand pending the drafting of a new strategy which certainly seems to have been taking shape because the movement has so far refrained from repeating its request for recognition, as it could have done.

Mr Ghannouchi is currently attending a seminar on Islamic thought in Algeria. He left Tunis on 13 May for a long tour of Europe, Asia, and the Gulf countries. He will probably find it easy to settle in one of the latter, for instance in Saudi Arabia, where he has always found moral and material support which irritates Tunisian political circles.

At a time when there is some disenchantment in the ranks of the various legal opposition parties which are not managing to recover from last April's election defeat, the question of the Islamic movement—the only one which did well in the elections—is returning to the forefront, where it has constantly been in recent years.

The Algerian Example

Within the ruling class, opinions seem to differ on the appropriateness of officially recognizing Ennahdha. Some see it as a threat to the kind of society that Tunisia has chosen, and others as a lesser danger than a return to clandestine existence in which the Islamic movement has shown that it can organize itself and act efficiently. A few months ago, when the question was already on the agenda, the Algerians and Libyans apparently expressed reservations about the existence of a Tunisian Islamic party. Thus, the answer that the Algiers government gives in the next 2 months to the request for authorization submitted recently by the "Islamic Salvation Front" is likely to have repercussions in Tunis.

Bahrain

Amir Departs for Belgrade for Nonaligned Summit

JN0309071689 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0600 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Manama, 3 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of the State of Bahrain, left for Belgrade this morning to head his country's delegation to the meetings of the ninth conference of the heads of states or governments of the Nonaligned Movement being held there 4-7 September. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Leaves for Summit

JN3108093089 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0800 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Manama, 31 Aug (WAKH)—Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak al Khalifah left Manama this morning for Belgrade to attend the Nonaligned foreign ministers' meeting, due to be held 1-2 September. The meeting will prepare for the ninth summit of the Nonaligned heads of states and governments, due to begin 4 September. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Interior Minister Takes Message to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD3108104389 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic
0711 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 31 Aug (KUNA)—The Kuwaiti minister of the interior, Shaykh Salim al-Sabah, left Kuwait this morning to attend the Libyan celebrations of the 1 September revolution on the order of Deputy Emir and Heir Apparent Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah. [passage omitted]

Before leaving, the minister of the interior said that he would be representing the deputy emir and heir apparent and the State of Kuwait at the Libyan celebrations. He also said he would convey a verbal message to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. [passage omitted]

State Minister Departs for Nonaligned Summit

JN3108091889 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0805 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Muscat, 31 Aug (WAKH)—Yusuf Ibn-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, and the delegation accompanying him left Muscat this morning for Belgrade to attend the meeting of the Nonaligned foreign ministers, due to be held there tomorrow, Friday. The meeting will prepare for the ninth Nonaligned summit meeting, due to begin Monday and last for 4 days. [passage omitted]

Oman

Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Belgrade

JN0309140889 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Excerpt] His Excellency Qays Ibn-'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Zawawi, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, this morning left for Belgrade to represent His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Said at the ninth conference of the heads of state or government of the Nonaligned Movement, scheduled to begin in the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, tomorrow, Monday. The conference is scheduled to last 4 days.

His Excellency Qays Ibn-'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Zawawi told the OMANI NEWS AGENCY that he is carrying a message from His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id to the Yugoslav president. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Departs for Libyan Celebration

JN3108150089 Manama WAKH in Arabic
1250 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Muscat, 31 Aug (WAKH)—Omani Interior Minister Badr Ibn-Su'ud Ibn-Harib Al Bu-Sa'id today left Muscat for Tripoli to take part in Libya's celebration of the 1 September Revolution as His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id's envoy. Upon his departure, the Omani minister said he would represent His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id in the celebrations on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the 1 September Revolution. The celebrations are due to begin in Tripoli tomorrow.

PDRY

YSP Political Bureau Holds Session 4 Sep

EA0409213089 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] During its regular meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Brother Ali Salim al-Bayd, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee, the Political Bureau considered a number of items on its agenda. The most important of these was a report on our country's economic and financial situation. The Political Bureau adopted a number of decisions mainly aimed at improving the country's supply of foreign exchange, stimulating agricultural production, and promoting a number of sectors of the national economy. The need to increase exports by making government institutions and cooperatives more geared to the export drive and the need to encourage the private sector to contribute to the export drive were stressed.

The Political Bureau approved comprehensive recommendations to encourage tourism services and related activities, and to activate the free market and the ports. The Political Bureau instructed the Council of Ministers to authorize citizens to spend their savings on the import

of pumps, engines, workshop machines, and other equipment that would help increase agricultural production and provide a useful basis for productive activities.

Qatar

Heir Apparent Leaves for NAM Summit Meeting

JN0309133489 Manama WAKH in Arabic
1140 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Doha, 3 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, left Doha at noon today for the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, heading the State of Qatar's delegation to attend the ninth conference of the heads of state or government of the Nonaligned Movement. He will represent Qatari Amir His Highess Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Hamad Al Thani.

A number of ranking Qatari officials saw him off at the airport.

His highness the Qatari heir apparent is accompanied by a ranking delegation including Health Minister Shaykh Khalid Ibn-Muhammad 'Ali Al Thani; Foreign Minister 'Abdallah Ibn-Khalifah al-'Atiyah; Dr Hamad 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Kawari, Qatar's permanent representative to the United Nations; and Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Khalid Al Thani, director of his highness' office. His highness is also accompanied by a large media delegation.

Foreign Minister Departs

JN3108111289 Manama WAKH in Arabic
1040 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Qatari Foreign Minister 'Abdallah Ibn-Khalifah al-'Atiyah [name and title as received] this morning left Doha for Belgrade to head his country's delegation to the ministerial meeting of the ninth nonaligned summit, scheduled to be held there tomorrow, Friday.

The nonaligned foreign ministers will discuss during their meeting tomorrow all topics on the summit agenda and prepare a comprehensive report on all issues to be discussed by the nonaligned leaders during their summit meetings, which begin Monday.

Saudia Arabia

Housing Minister Heads Delegation to Tripoli

LD3108184189 Riyadh SPA in Arabic
1730 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Al-Ta'if, 31 Aug (SPA)—Deputizing for King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, His Royal Highness Mut'ib ibn 'abd al-'Aziz, minister of public works and housing, is leading the Saudi delegation that will take part in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's celebrations on 1 September, which coincides with the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

His Highness Prince Mut'ib ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left Al-Ta'if today for Libya. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

Foreign Affairs Official Departs for NAM Meeting

JN0309095089 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0910 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Sep (WAKH)—Rashid 'Abdallah, United Arab Emirates (UAE) minister of state for foreign affairs, left Abu Dhabi for Belgrade this morning, heading his country's delegation to the ninth conference of the heads of states or governments of the Nonaligned Movement. The conference is due to begin in the Yugoslav capital tomorrow, Monday.

Rashid 'Abdallah's delegation includes Ya'qub al-Kindi, head of the Foreign Relations Department; Muhammad Husayn al-Sha'aali, permanent UAE representative at the United Nations [title as received]; and a number of officials.

Yemen Arab Republic

Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Belgrade

JN0309140089 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Brother Dr Hasan Muhammad Makki, deputy prime minister and Standing Committee member, this morning left for Belgrade to head our country's delegation to the ninth conference of the heads of state or government of the Nonaligned Movement, scheduled to begin in the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, tomorrow, Monday. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Leaves for Libyan Celebrations

JN3108162289 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, prime minister, Standing Committee member, has left Sanaa for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, heading a delegation to join the brotherly Libyan people's celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the 1st September revolution.

Interior Minister Leaves for ACC Meeting

JN0109182289 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abdallah Husayn Barakat, interior minister and Standing Committee member, left for Baghdad today leading our delegation to the first meeting of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] foreign ministers. The meeting begins in the Iraqi capital tomorrow, Saturday.

700 Iraqis, Egyptians Reported Killed in Blast

JN0609061089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] In today's issue, the British newspaper THE INDEPENDENT revealed that 700 Iraqis and Egyptians could have been killed in a huge explosion at a secret military industrial complex 60 km away from Baghdad on 17 August. Citing foreign and Middle Eastern diplomatic sources, the paper said the explosion caused a big fire that burned for 7 days before it could be extinguished. The paper noted that the explosion could have been the result of a rise in temperature of certain equipment and that there are no indications that it was an act of a sabotage.

Further on 'Missile' Factory Blast

JN0609072889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Citing unidentified sources, the British newspaper THE INDEPENDENT says that about 700 Iraqis and Egyptians were killed in a huge explosion at an Iraqi factory for the manufacture of missiles situated 60 km away from Baghdad. The explosion caused a huge fire that burned for 7 days before it could be extinguished. The paper noted that the factory had been producing amended versions of the long-range Soviet Scud-B missile.

Information Minister Interviewed on Issues

PM0409122389 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 28 Aug 89 pp 16-21

[Interview with Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim in Baghdad by Hamidah Na'na'; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Na'na'] The Western press has written a great deal about a so-called campaign to evacuate Kurds from their villages and territory toward Arab areas. Some information said that some of them were forced to leave for Basra, and I have the names of villages said to have been demolished—namely, (Kah Ju Balakh), (Qarblakh), (Julalah) [names as transliterated], Darband Khan, and Zardaw, which is important. Where did the residents of these villages go?

[Jasim] When we began work on the border line we moved the Kurds into communities within which they can live a dignified life, since they have spent many years having no life at all. There are some of our Kurdish brothers who have still not seen a car, and their dealings are completely outside the context of life. Are we to accept that? Are we to accept that, in addition to these people's suffering, their backwardness is to be used against them and against the national condition? Their move into communities within the autonomous region helps us provide services for them. As for talk about their being moved into Basra or elsewhere, this is inaccurate and a lie. And I am responsible for what I say: No one has been moved into Basra other than its own people. They have returned to Basra.

[Na'na'] Does that mean that the Kurds did not go south?

[Jasim] Not a single Kurd went there, apart from those who went there for work and to make a living, but that was at their own free will.

[Na'na'] And none of them will be moved in the future?

[Jasim] Unless they want to be.

[Na'na'] A question concerning the security line: Is that military-security measure temporary, pending the achievement of political security after a peace agreement is signed?

[Jasim] Political, social, economic, and human security... We don't want our people to return to their former backward state.

[Na'na'] As far as you are concerned, has the war ended?

[Jasim] As far as we are concerned it has ended and has been crowned with victory, and we have put on civilian clothes. And praise God for his victory.

[Na'na'] What is your policy toward the Gulf, in the knowledge that some Gulf circles fear Iraq's future role?

[Jasim] Maybe those you met in the Gulf were not Arabs. I mean those whom you describe as fearful. It must be made clear that the strength of our brothers in the Gulf is our strength. So if we are strong, it is because they are. And they are strong when we are. Their prayers and backing for us during the war were very important factors. The stance of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, and the other Gulf states was a good one.

The strong person is not strong against his brothers, himself, or his kinfolk but against his enemies. Our relations with the Arab Gulf states are close and governed by history, and by instances which were tested at the time of war. So whichever of them is fearful is outside of those instances. And whoever made that generalization is inaccurate. [passage omitted]

[Na'na'] The president has spoken on more than one occasion about the question of pluralism and democracy. How do you visualize the nature of that plan, and what stage have you reached in that regard?

[Jasim] The democracy plan had been in the president's mind before the war, namely, since 1979. And as far as he was concerned, the details of that plan were clear and complete. These details were drawn up 2 years ago or more.

[Na'na'] May we know something about its features?

[Jasim] The features have been mentioned by President Saddam at several meetings with journalists. We are in the process of preparing a new constitution for the

country, because the Constitution in force is 20 years old. The plan's general features mean party pluralism, granting more privileges for the press, freedom of the press, and incentives for participation in national action. These are not privileges granted to the people but a kind of action and participation in building Iraq. [Passage omitted]

[Na'na'] Have you discussed how the other political parties will be formed? For instance, will the former parties be allowed to return, and will the Communists have the right to form a party under pluralism?

[Jasim] It is beyond my powers to talk about an undecided issue. But we will not allow the reformation of the Communist Party because it is an agent party which betrayed the homeland. And I point out that there is a committee for parties, a committee for the Constitution, and a committee for the press. My powers are concerned with the press, that is, giving the citizen the freedom to think, innovate, and criticize without any restrictions, except with regard to whatever concerns national security. [passage omitted]

[Na'na'] You were very sensitive about the Iranian-Soviet deal, and talks were held in that regard between you and the Soviet Union. Is there anything new?

[Jasim] As far as we are concerned, we consider the supplying of arms to Iran by any party—large or small, Arab or foreign—to constitute an unsound line and action. Why? Any state is entitled to arm itself, but when that state is a party at war with Iraq, we feel sensitive, especially when the state's declared line is an aggressive line. Iran is not a peaceful, civilized country working for culture or for the sake of God. It is working for destruction and for the export of so-called revolution. So supplying it with arms will make the madmen even madder. Besides, Iran, or the rulers of Iran, tend to delude themselves. When they see a major international party—and I say, like the Soviet Union—supplying them with arms, they will be stricken by arrogance and will consider that all their actions are justified and acceptable. Of course we explained that matter to our Soviet friends.

[Na'na'] Did you convince the Soviets?

[Jasim] Views are being exchanged.

[Na'na'] But according to reports, you have joint projects with the Soviet Union in military industrialization.

[Jasim] Actually I have no information at all about military industrialization with one party or another. I tell you that I have information about the political and informational movement.

[Na'na'] Until now no trust has been created between you and the United States. How are your relations with Washington?

[Jasim] Trust is not an absolute thing. And in relations between states it must be examined from time to time, that is, in the light of these relations and interests. We trusted the United States for a period of time, but it surprised us with Irangate. A believer cannot be bitten twice from the same snake hole. We are now assessing positions, individually. We do not view the general position of a particular state and then say that our relations are now good or excellent. This does not apply to the Arab homeland, which for us is a different case. But with regard to foreign states, our relations are relations of interests: They must be examined from time to time. I believe that up until now we have not reached the level that would inspire the assurance and trust we would like in the future. More steps are required to enable us to forget past events.

[Na'na'] Do you believe that nonrapprochement between Baghdad and Washington is attributable to the influence of the Zionist lobby, which does not wish Iraq to have good relations with the United States? Or is it attributable to other reasons?

[Jasim] The Zionist lobby has serious influence not only in that regard, it also has great influence in the information and economic fields, and in pursuing Iraq and monitoring Iraq's movement. But we wonder: Where is the U.S. role? Where is its role, when the United States—that gigantic country—is controlled by the Zionist lobby? How can we guarantee the relationship and the level of relationship required and aspired to.

[Na'na'] How do you view the results of the presidential elections in Iran? Are you satisfied with Rafsanjani's arrival?

[Jasim] We were not interested in precisely who the president would be. All we are interested in is for Iran to have a man who understands the lesson of the war—a man who probably read and absorbed it well and who is not going to repeat that experiment again, because it will be more bitter and harder.

[Na'na'] Do you believe that Rafsanjani is one of the few people who have absorbed the war lesson? Is he not rational?

[Jasim] Rafsanjani is head of state now, and I do not know how he thinks, nor do I know whether or not he has absorbed the war lesson. We look at the results and do not speculate. The important thing is who is the leader in Iran, or who is shouldering the responsibility. What concerns us is that he should believe in peace, good-neighborliness, and noninterference in others' affairs. This is because war, as emphasized by the president, is an urgent and exceptional case. As for peace, it is a natural life among the peoples. For 10 years Iran has lived on blood, death, weeping, wounds, and pains. They must turn to their people to heal their wounds, not keep their eyes focused on Iraq.

[Na'na'] Observers see your backing of General 'Awn as a settlement of accounts with Syria. What is the nature of your relations in Lebanon? And what is your position toward Syria?

[Jasim] You say settlement of accounts. That is untrue. In 1979—when relations with Syria were good—the leader-president told Hafiz al-Asad that our relations would not remain good if the Syrian forces did not withdraw from Lebanon. At his meeting with the Lebanese in 1976 and at his meeting with 'Ali Ballut, AL-DUSTUR chief editor, the president pointed out that the solution must be achieved on Lebanese territory under the slogan "No winners and no losers." He also pointed out that legitimacy must prevail, the solution must be Lebanese, and all forces must leave. And as I remember, in 1976 and 1977 the leader-president emphasized: The experiment designed in Lebanon was not a nationalist experiment for Lebanon. And if the experiment succeeds, it will be exported to the four countries—Syria, Iraq, Sudan, and the Arab Maghreb. It is a scheme designed to fragment the homeland on a sectarian basis. We took a farsighted view of the question of nationalities and sects. We consider what is happening in Lebanon a "rehearsal" which, if successful, would be applied to the other Arab states, especially Syria, Iraq, and Sudan. Its objective is to end pan-Arab action. On that basis we are devoting attention to the Lebanese question.

The leader-president was clear at the Casablanca summit, where he stressed that the solution must be Arab because of the seriousness of the problem. And the solution is the withdrawal of the Syrian, Iranian, and Israeli forces. Then the Lebanese meet and elect whomever is suitable for them. And the Arabs must back the Lebanese people. So the matter is not one of confrontation between us and others. That is not among our traits. Backing the (Christian) group which represents the legitimate government falls within that concept. This is because the continuous pressure on the Christians and classifying them as Israel's agents is something planned, the objective being to actually push the Christians toward Israel, following which there would several cantons—one Druze, one Christian, one Shiite, one Sunni, and so on.

Our backing for legitimacy is linked to a strategic vision to avoid Lebanon's fragmentation. A dramatic hidden process concerning the nation's fate is now taking place in Lebanon.

[Na'na'] Final question: President Saddam Husayn received two figures from the Syrian opposition, not from the Ba'thists—namely, 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Siraj and Jasim 'Ulwan. Does that mean support for the two figures, or support for all opposition figures and trends in Syria?

[Jasim] Iraq is a large tent and rest station for all Arabs. And it carries the aspirations of all Arabs. The president receives journalists, opposition figures, politicians, and thinkers from all over the world. They have had the opportunity to meet with him.

Iraqi Delegation to IPU Withdraws Proposal

JN0509141989 Baghdad INA in English
1340 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] London, Sept. 5, INA—At the opening of the 1st working session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, head of the Iraqi General Assembly's delegation Mr. 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Janabi announced here yesterday on behalf of the Iraqi section in the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the withdrawal of the Iraqi proposal concerning the no-war and no-peace state in the Arab Gulf region and the exchange of prisoners of war (POWs) provided that it would be discussed during the next parliamentary conference.

Mr. al-Janabi said that withdrawing this proposal came to pave the way for concentrating discussions on Namibia's independence.

Spain had submitted a proposal on supporting the Namibian issue unanimously approved by the participants.

Saddam's Envoy Returns From Libyan Celebrations

JN0309135789 Baghdad INA in English
1049 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sep. 3, INA—President Saddam Husayn's representative, Mr. Muhammad Hamzah, member of regional leadership of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party (ABSP), arrived here last night coming from Tripoli.

During the visit Mr. Hamzah had participated in Libya's celebrations on the 20th anniversary of the September 1st revolution.

Cooperation Minutes Signed With Bahrain

JN0309091089 Baghdad INA in Arabic
2145 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Sep (INA)—Finance Minister Hikmat 'Umar al-Hadithi and his delegation returned to Baghdad tonight after heading the Iraqi side at the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Bahraini committee for economic, trade, and technical cooperation, which concluded its work in Manama yesterday.

The finance minister said in a statement to INA that the committee's meetings were very fruitful in developing and promoting Iraqi-Bahraini relations in the finance, trade, and economy fields as well as the exchange of goods.

He added that the joint minutes of economic, trade, and financial cooperation between the two countries were signed. They included establishing the basis for financial, economic, technical, and training relations to serve the joint interests of the two countries.

Trade Minister Meets Chadian Counterpart

JN2008113289 Baghdad INA in English
1050 GMT 20 Aug 89

[Text] Baghdad, Aug. 20, INA—Iraqi Minister of Trade, Mr. Muhammad Mahdi Salim met here today with Chad's Minister of Trade and Industry Mr. Amos Reoulangar and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, they reviewed means of developing cooperation between the two countries in trade, economic, scientific and cultural fields through preparing a new agreement to be signed by the two sides later.

They also prepared for holding meetings of the second session of the Iraqi-Chadian joint committee next November.

Trade Minister Leaves for Turkey 4 Sep

JN0409205389 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih today left for Istanbul to head the Iraqi delegation at the 2-day meetings of the Islamic Conference Organization Standing Committee for Trade, Economic, and Technological Cooperation.

During these meetings, the future of trade and economic cooperation among the Islamic states will be discussed. The meetings also will discuss the possibility of broadening fields of common action. They will also review the work of the Standing Committee's technical committees and a number of working papers with the aim of broadening cooperation among the Islamic states in all fields.

Vietnamese Communications Minister Arrives 2 Sep

Hopes To Promote Cooperation

JN0309090489 Baghdad INA in Arabic
2140 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Sep (INA)—Vietnamese Communications and Tranportation Minister Bui Danh Luu and his delegation arrived in Baghdad this evening on a [words indistinct] visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Mr Luu expressed his joy over visiting Iraq, which has backed Vietnam even in time of war and has supported it politically and economically.

He said: The purpose of our visit is to hold talks with Iraqi officials at the Transport and Communications Ministry to promote cooperation, especially the contribution of the Vietnamese work force to the development and growth taking place in fraternal Iraq.

Meets Iraqi Counterpart

JN0309185089 Baghdad INA in English
1610 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 3, INA—Iraqi Communications and Transport Minister Mohammed Hamza met here today his Vietnamese counterpart Bui Danh Luu and the accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral cooperation in the fields of goods, rail, and exchange of expertise.

Iraqi-Indian Cooperation Committee Meets 2 Sep

JN0309090089 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1928 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Sep (INA)—Meetings of the joint Iraqi-Indian committee for economic, trade, and technical cooperation began today at the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The Iraqi side was headed by Mr Ghassan 'Abdallah Radwan, senior under secretary of the Transport and Communications Ministry and deputy head of the Iraqi side of the committee. On the Indian side, the meetings were headed by Jay Bee Raw [name as received], under secretary of the Trade Ministry and deputy head of the Indian side of the committee.

The agenda of the joint committee included expanding future cooperation and increasing the exchange of goods between the two friendly countries. They also included the contribution of Indian companies to development projects in Iraq, some of which are railway and ports projects.

Representatives from the concerned ministries and the central banks in both countries participated in the meetings.

Industry Minister Receives Bulgarian Official

JN0509161489 Baghdad INA in English
1440 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 5, INA—Iraqi Minister of Industry and Military Industrialization Husayn Kamil Hasan met here today visiting Bulgarian Light Industries Minister Elina Slative [name and title as received].

The two sides discussed means of boosting bilateral cooperation in silk, leather, glass, and ceramic industries.

A ministry's delegation is to leave for Bulgaria to propose a framework for industrial cooperation.

Slavko Jovic Leaves Baghdad for Tehran 30 Aug

JN3008121589 Baghdad INA in English
1200 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Baghdad, Aug. 30, INA—Yugoslav General Slavko Jovic, commander of the United Nations Iraq-Iran Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) left for Tehran today at the conclusion of a week-long visit to Iraq.

The general's visit comes within his shuttle trips between Baghdad and Tehran to get acquainted with the work of the military observer group on the Iraqi side.

He was seen off at the airport by his assistant in Iraq and a number of officers of coordination body with the military observers.

'Arafat's Visa Request Prompts Reactions

Peres Sees No Affect on U.S. Ties

TA0509152789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said that granting a visa to Yasir 'Arafat to attend the UN General Assembly in New York will not affect our relations with Washington.

Mr Peres said he is currently immersed in economic affairs, but that if it transpires that the political initiative is going nowhere, his party would be forced to draw some conclusions.

Mr Peres was speaking to our correspondent Nati Zilberman during a tour of Qiryat Ata.

Shamir Opposed to 'Arafat Visa

TA0509114089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shamir is still opposed to PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat's entry into the United States to attend the upcoming session of the UN General Assembly. David Essing reports:

[Essing] The Prime Minister's Bureau says Yitzhaq Shamir opposes any show of appeasement to the PLO in general and to Yasir 'Arafat in particular. In answer to a question, a senior official said there is absolutely no basis to reports that the prime minister has softened his stand.

Request Seen 'Test of U.S. Intentions'

TA0509165289 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 4 Sep 89 p 4

[Editorial: "'Arafat Must Travel to UN"]

[Text] Palestine President Yasir 'Arafat is thinking about going to New York to attend the UN General Assembly session when it opens in late September. We think that 'Arafat should do what he can to go there to address the international body.

This trip and what 'Arafat has to tell the international organization are very important. He is going to talk about developments in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict a year after the PLO launched its peace initiative and agreed to preconditions set by the international community for the start of a peace process for the conflict. He is also going to let them know how Palestinians feel about these developments and what future steps they plan to take to advance peace.

It is the right of the international community to hear 'Arafat speak. It is also the right of the Palestinian people to speak to the world through this forum. The U.S. should not try to block the Palestinians from addresing the world from the UN.

'Arafat's visa request to enter the U.S. would also become a test of U.S. intentions toward the PLO. The U.S. will show bad intentions and a hostile attitude if it denies 'Arafat an entry visa. 'Arafat, therefore, should take this opportunity to test U.S. intentions, particularly now that the dialoge has been going on for more than eight months. If the U.S. is serious about its role as peacebroker in the region, then it should allow 'Arafat to enter its territory and address the UN and whatever other organizations that invite him to speak.

Peace With Arab States Before Palestinians

TA0609090589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Sep 89 pp 1, 12

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir appeared yesterday to stray from the government's peace initiative, saying that an "understanding" with Arab countries must *precede* any agreement with the Palestinians.

Reporting on Shamir's meeting with Canadian parliamentarians, a communique issued by the Prime Minister's Office stated: "The prime minister emphasized that an understanding must first be reached with those Arab countries that are still in a state of war with us, because an arrangement with the Palestinians—which will not be accompanied by one with Arab states—will be useless."

Sources in Shamir's office confirmed the quote, adding that Shamir believes that peace with the Palestinians, but not with the Arab states, "will not be peace." An aide to Shamir said that "the Palestinians, after all, do not threaten Israel's very existence. The day after they reach an arrangement with us, Arab states could launch an all-out war against us."

Listing four objectives—peace with Arab states, elections in the territories, reaffirmation of Camp David, and rehabilitation of the refugees—the government's May 14 initiative states: "All of the above-mentioned steps should be dealt with simultaneously."

Previously, however, ministers have steered away from asserting any formal linkage between the four clauses. Sources close to Shamir did not respond to a query on the degree of deviation between Shamir's statement and the initiative.

Senior Labour sources expressed amazement at Shamir's statement, adding that "after President Bush shot down one of the four points, Shamir is now retaliating by shooting down another." Bush informed Shamir in a letter this week that the U.S. could not endorse Israel's plan for rehabilitation of the refugees independently of progress on the peace process as a whole. [passage omitted]

Rabin Denies Meeting With Mubarak in Works

TA0609105989 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Sep 89 pp 1, 14

[Report by Smadar Peri, Yohanan Lahav, and Washington correspondent Erol Guiney]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin last night told YEDI'OT AHARONOT that he had not been approached by either U.S. or Egyptian officials concerning a meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

"So far I have not been approached or invited to a meeting with the Egyptian president by either the Americans or the Egyptians, and I have nothing further to add," Minister Rabin said. He stressed that the dates of his visit (he is departing for the United States later today), and that of the Egyptian president (Mubarak is due in the United States only at the end of the month), do not coincide, "and the question of holding such a meeting at some other venue has not yet come up either."

Egyptian Ambassador in Israel Muhammad Basyuni last night told YEDI'OT AHARONOT that last night's Israel Television evening newsreel report on efforts to arrange a meeting between President Mubarak and Defense Minister Rabin was not true. Ambassador Basyuni also rejected the possibility that the two men may "run into each other" in the United States or elsewhere. "Minister Rabin is leaving for the United States today, while President Mubarak will get there only on 28 September and will address the UN General Assembly the next day. President Mubarak will later confer with President Bush and Secretary of State Baker. I know nothing about a meeting with Minister Rabin," Ambassador Basyuni stated. [passage omitted]

Jordan To Increase Security Along Border

TA0609101289 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 Sep 89 p 5

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Yosi Werther]

[Excerpt] Jordan has relayed a political message to Israel stating it intends to step up security controls along the border in order to prevent a recurrence of the recent terrorist infiltrations. This is in response to the clear-cut message Israel relayed to Jordan via the United States, and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's warning that Israel would not tolerate any further infiltrations from Jordanian territory.

Commentary Sees Fatah-Jordan Link in Attack

TA0409170189 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Sep 89 p A14

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "Jordan Did Not Find the Tracks"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] There is no need for expertise in intelligence to analyze the incident near Kefar Ruppin. The facts on the ground are clear. The terrorist had no other way of reaching the narrow strip between Jordan and the border fence than over Jordanian territory. The Jordanian Government's haste to point to the lack of tracks in order to distance itself from the attack from its territory arouses concern over that country's situation and suspicions about its government's intentions.

It has still not been determined which terrorist organization was responsible for sending the attacker to the Kefar Ruppin area. Nonetheless, the intifadah's [uprising] increasing violence and the growing competition between the organizations point to many possibilities. It might have been an on-duty Jordanian soldier, influenced more by the stinging caricatures of Israel in the Jordanian press than the Army General Command's orders against infiltrations. The possibility that Fatah was behind that murderous attack should not be discounted either.

After coming to the rescue of the Jordanian dinar by injecting money from outside the country to fund the PLO's activities inside Jordan, 'Arafat believes that Husayn will no longer actively restrain terrorist actions from his territory. Moreover, after promising at the Fatah congress to escalate the armed struggle, 'Arafat cannot sit back with folded arms. He needs some spectacular actions his U.S. interlocutors can live with. 'Arafat managed to convince many states that activities against the Israel Defense Forces [IDF] are not to be considered terrorist actions since they are constitute an uprising against a foreign rule, but he fears that this provocation will bring him into dangerous conflict with the IDF. It is therefore better for him to hide behind Husayn's apron, since Israel is forgiving toward the monarch. It is not inconceivable that the PLO hopes to reach a sort of "modus vivendi" with Jordan on the scope of the harassment along the border, one that Jordan could explain away in any dispute with Israel. In other words, Husayn would agree to controlled terrorist activity from his territory. The conditions for such a move were in fact ripe before the ambush near Kefar Ruppin. Even if it turns out that Fatah was not responsible for the ambush, there is no guarantee, not even from Jordan, that it cannot occur in the near future.

The ups and downs in the intifadah led to various explanations and conclusions: Those who viewed the intifadah as a turning point in PLO activities, as a sort of nonviolent civil revolt, were mistaken. Others who saw a momentary lull in the uprising as a sign that it was waning were also wrong.

The truth is that the intifadah did not wane when the PLO thought there was a chance for a political solution, just as it did not decline when the PLO became disappointed with the political negotiations. The intifadah was and remains the basis for consolidating the PLO fighting cadres and for training them for terrorist activities when the time is ripe. The intifadah was not intended to be a cease-fire in terrorist activities, but a time-out for consolidating terrorist cells when the right

moment arrives. Saturday's clash in Nabulus with a group of armed terrorists, whose incubation within the strike committees came to an end, is proof of the way the Palestinian terrorist force is being built.

The intifadah is being used as a sort of stage onto which the following have climbed: the terrorist organizations to train the fighting cadres; ordinary criminals to instill fear in the population for their own private interests; and sometimes even "an on-duty Jordanian soldier." Its leaders did not plan to use it as an instrument for cutting down on violence. They viewed it as a melting pot for Palestinian terrorism.

Fatah's decision to escalate terrorist activities was not made because political negotiations have reached a stalemate. On the contrary, Fatah, by escalating terror, will try to implement its decision to put the brakes on negotiations between Israel and the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip.

Several days before the opening of the Fatah congress, the defense minister declared on Arabic television that there is a growing tendency among the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip to agree to a dialogue with Israel on elections. Fatah responded by imposing a total ban on talks with Israelis who oppose a Palestinian state. This decision did not destabilize the Israeli Government, as Fatah had hoped; also, it did not frighten the United States, which openly criticized the decision.

Therefore, the PLO is trying to escalate terrorism against Israeli military targets and soldiers. The IDF has been given no choice but to take preemptive measures and hit the strike committees within which an expeditionary force for increased terrorist activity is being consolidated. The preemptive strike in Nabulus—wiping out the squad which emerged within the strike force—can be the signal.

Shamir To Continue Efforts To Aid Refugees

TA0509074589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Israel will continue its efforts to find a solution to the refugee problem in any event. Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen heard this statement from the Prime Minister's Office in the wake of a letter from President Bush which arrived 2 days ago. The letter asserts that the matter of the refugee camps cannot be dissociated from the rest of the peace initiative. The letter said that the United States is the main contributor to the UN Works and Relief Agency which aids the refugees and added that it cannot make any additional donations. Bush's letter came in response to a letter sent by Prime Minister Shamir approximately 2 months ago, in which he detailed the Israeli peace initiative, including a solution to the refugee problem.

Soviet Consular Representatives Return to USSR

TA0309125489 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 3 Sep 89 p 3

[Report by David Hayun]

[Text] In a surprise move, Leonid Anatoliy Mikhalevich, the acting consul at the Soviet interests office in Israel, returned to the USSR at the end of last week after less than 8 months in the country. His replacement arrived here several days ago.

Georgiy Martirosov, the consul, went back to the USSR about 1 month ago. It is still not clear when he will return to Israel. In the meantime, he is being replaced by the acting consul.

No Menem Peace Plan Received by Foreign Ministry

TA0609084689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Argentine President Carlos Menem will visit the Middle East and present his peace plan by the end of the year. This was announced by his spokesman at the Conference of the Nonaligned Movement in Belgrade. Menem has already discussed the matter with the leaders of Arab countries, and briefed the Israeli ambassador in Buenos Aires and the president of the World Jewish Congress on the issue.

In response, Foreign Ministry circles in Jerusalem have told our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen that no plans of the Argentine president have been received in Israel. If and when Israel receives the plan, it will issue a reaction. The Foreign Ministry emphasized that Israel has its own peace initiative to which it adheres, and that it objects to negotiations with the PLO.

MK To Meet With South African Officials

TA0409080489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Text] Likud Knesset Member [MK] Tzahi Hanegbi is flying to South Africa today. He was invited by the local Jewish community and the South African Government.

According to MK Hanegbi, he consulted with some senior Foreign Ministry elements who told him there was no reason why he could not make an official visit to South Africa on an invitation from the authorities. Hanegbi intends to meet with members of the South African regime, among others.

It will be noted that a 1987 Cabinet resolution totally prohibits any official meetings between Israeli representatives and South African Government officials.

Senior Foreign Ministry elements were furious about Hanegbi's plans to meet with officials, and forbade him

to do so. MK Hanegbi has announced that the meetings will take place, but will be unofficial.

In the Peres-Beilin era at the Foreign Ministry, the Cabinet passed a series of very strict resolutions concerning Israeli-South African relations. Last night, political elements noted that under Minister Arens and Deputy Minister Netanyahu, the Foreign Ministry has adopted a more pragmatic line, abandoning what it terms the crusade against South Africa.

Aviation Heads To Attend International Meeting

TA0409133489 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Sep 89 p 8

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Two Israeli officials are due to leave for Moscow today to attend a four-day international conference on "Aviation in the Next Century" organized by the U.S. and Soviet aviation administrations. They are Shmu'el Kandel, the Airport Authority's deputy engineering and development director, and Sha'ul Eshel, El Al's vice president for planning.

Helicopters Used in 'Initiated Operations'

TA0509073589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will now employ Air Force helicopters as an additional means to fight the intifadah [uprising]. The helicopters will be incorporated into the IDF's initiated operations in the territories. Our military affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports:

The decision to use helicopters is part of Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's policy calling for widespread initiated activity in Judaea and Samaria, the establishment of an operational and intelligence network, and the capture of dangerous terrorists who attempt to attack both the security forces and Arabs suspected of collaborating with the authorities.

Major General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, the commander of the Central Command, and Major General Avihu Bin-Nun, the Israeli Air Force commander, met approximately 2 weeks ago and decided to increase cooperation between the Air Force and IDF troops in the territories, thus improving the IDF's performance in the field. The IDF believes that the incorporation of helicopters in active duty will increase the IDF's capability to reach problematic areas and will make it harder for wanted activists to escape, as they have managed to do in many previous instances in which troops arrived to make arrests. The helicopters will also aid the IDF in locating the various hiding places used by the fugitives, such as wadis and crevices. The wanted men will be spotted from the helicopters, and soldiers will then alight from the helicopters and operate in the area. In other cases, the ground forces will be directed from the air by the helicopter team.

The IDF operated in this fashion over two Samaria villages yesterday. The helicopter circled the area for over 1 hour and with its help, the security forces managed to arrest several suspects.

As mentioned earlier, the use of helicopters in initiated operations is one of several planned steps. This week, a new territory company commenced operational activity in Judaea and Samaria. This is the third IDF company designed for special duty in the territories, and its soldiers spend most of their military service on police duty in the territories. Military sources expressed satisfaction with the company's performance.

Masked Men Launch Attacks in West Bank Incidents

Border Police Among Wounded

TA0409172089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] There were disturbances, clashes with soldiers, and six casualties among rioters in several Judaea and Samaria locations today.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that two masked youths who stoned a Border Police patrol were wounded in Qalqilyah. The other casualties were in Tulkarm and the village of Za'tarah in the Bethlehem area. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] closed Bethlehem's market until tomorrow because of rioting and stone throwing. The curfews imposed Saturday on Nabulus and its adjacent refugee camps continue.

The Gaza Strip was quiet today and workers left for their jobs inside the Green Line.

Khan Yunus Boy Dies of Wounds

TA0509092389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Ahmad al-Baytar, a 12-year-old resident of Khan Yunus, died in Tel Hashomer Hospital last night of wounds incurred when a bullet struck his head during disturbances in Khan Yunus 6 days ago.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that three Arabs were severely beaten by masked men in Rafah after being suspected of collaboration with the Israeli authorities.

Rafah Man Dies Following Beating

TA0509115489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Na'im Afanah, a resident of Rafah, died in al-Nasir Hospital in Khan Yunus this morning. He was beaten this morning by masked men, apparently because of collaboration with the Israeli authorities. [passage omitted]

SLA Defuses Explosive Charge in Security Zone

TA0509120589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] SLA [South Lebanese Army] troops discovered a 50 kg explosive charge near al-Qantarah village in the security zone. The bomb was safely defused by the SLA.

90,000 Settlers Seen in Territories by 1990

TA0109111389 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Sep 89 p A2

[Report by Nadav Shragay]

[Text] Seven new settlements have been inaugurated since the establishment of the current government: Five of them are part of the last coalition agreement, and two are part of previous coalition agreements.

According to plans, and in keeping with the last coalition agreement, three new settlements will be inaugurated within the next few months: Dugit in the Qatif Bloc, Rehan He in northern Samaria, and Ramat Qidron in the Judaea mountain ridge.

The settlements which have already been inaugurated, and whose establishment is a part of the last coalition agreement are: Zoref in Gush 'Ezyon (12 families totaling some 60 people, planned for 200 families); Talmon in the Binyamin District (12 families totaling some 60 people, planned for 200 families); Kefar Darom in the Qatif Bloc (12 families totaling some 60 people, planned for 120 families); Pe'at Sade in the Qatif Bloc (10 families totaling some 50 people, planned for 150 families); 'Ofarim in the Binyamin District (6 families, planned for 220 families in the first stage).

In keeping with the agreement between the Likud and the Alignment, the Treasury should have transferred 30 million Israeli shekels to the Housing Ministry according to the following breakdown: 8 million for the establishment of the eight new settlements, 10 million for building the underground infrastructure for those settlements [figures as published], and 12 million for paving roads connecting the various settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

The Knesset Finance Committee approved the allocation as far back as 4 months ago, but the Treasury has been withholding the money. Meanwhile, the Council of Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, Gush Emunim's Amana settlement movement, and the regional councils have been financing the establishment of the new settlements out of their own pockets.

Two other settlements which have been inaugurated are not included on the list. The first is Zufim, in Samaria, where the first 25 permanent houses are now being built, and the building of 20 other housing units will start soon. Zufim's master plan includes 2,000 housing units. The entity operating in this location is the Fund for the Reclamation of Land [Haqeren Lege'ulat Qarqa']. The establishment of this settlement was approved 8 years ago.

The second settlement is Avne Hefez, in Samaria, where 25 housing units are currently being built. The first 15 families and 10 bachelors will move into the houses in about a month, during the Sukkoth holiday.

The most interesting fact about the settlements in the territories is that at the moment there are 2,000 housing units in various stages of construction throughout the West Bank. It is believed that 1,500 of them will be finished and inhabited by the end of 1990. Some 80,000 Jews reside in these areas at present, and the significance of this fact is that by the end of the decade the number of Jews in the territories will be close to 90,000.

King Husayn Returns From Cairo 27 Aug

JN2708161789 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland today following a brief working visit to Egypt, during which he held talks with his brother Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The talks dealt with bilateral and Arab issues of interest to the Arab Cooperation Council. The talks also dealt with the current Arab issues, foremost of which is the Palestine question. [passage omitted]

King Sends Congratulations to Al-Qadhdhafi

JN3108111789 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] His majesty the king today sent congratulations to the Libyan leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, on his country's revolution anniversary.

His majesty wished the Libyan leader good health and his people progress and prosperity.

Jardanah on Debts, Al-Nabulsi on Exchange Rate

JN0509092689 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 5 Sep 89 pp 1, 16

[By Fayruz Mubayydin]

[Text] Amman—Finance Minister Basil Jardanah has said: The committee which was formed by the London Club to study the economic situation in Jordan is due in Amman on 9 September on a 2-day visit to hold meetings with senior Jordanian officials.

In a statement to SAWT AL-SHA'B Jardanah said: During its meetings, the committee will discuss the rescheduling of $450 million—payments for the year 1989-1990—over a period of 10-15 years.

Jardanah said he hoped these meetings would result in decisions and recommendations that will enable Jordan to repay its total debts, amounting to $1.2 billion, to commercial banks within the London Club. He indicated that because of technicalities, the final agreement might take some time.

On the other hand, the Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi expected that toward the end of this year, the Jordanian local financial market would return to a unified exchange rate against the dollar.

Dr al-Nabulsi told a press conference that returning to a unified exchange rate for the dinar comes within the context of a new working plan which will be implemented as of the beginning of next year to further stabilize the Jordanian dinar.

Dr al-Nabulsi affirmed that the CBJ would continue to intervene in the banking system by pumping foreign currency into the local market periodically to keep the dinar's rate lower than 700 fils to the dollar.

Government Plans To Sell Some Public Companies

JN0309200289 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Amman—Meetings of the regional seminar on enhancing the role of the private sector in economic development, organized by the UN Development Program in collaboration with the Amman Chamber of Industry, opened in Amman today. Minister of Planning Dr Ziyad Fariz gave a speech in which he pointed out the importance of the private sector in development. The minister also stressed the importance of providing motives for investment and applying comprehensive economic policies and means to increase the contribution of the private sector in economic activity.

The minister said that the commercial environment in Jordan flourished under the shadow of political stability, economic freedom, and availability of basic elements of environment and supporting services. He stressed that there are no restrictions in Jordan on the price of the means of production or minimim wages. Interest rates, he said, are subject to the law of supply and demand. There are also no restrictions on investment, as the government has canceled the law of industrial licenses. The industrial situation has improved with the cancellation of all restrictions on imports and the provision of opportunity for foreign competition.

The minister said that the government's direct ownership is confined to public utility companies, such as electricity, water, and communications. There are also companies of social service such as education and health, whose ownership is not confined to the public sector, he said. He said the government intends to move toward selling the shares of Alia [Royal Jordanian airlines], the Telecommunications Corporation, and the Public Transport Corporation. It made the necessary steps for finding the optimal method for application, he said. He added that the government had expressd its intention to sell its shares in a number of companies, especially hotels and tourist facilities. [passage omitted]

'Arab-Japanese Dialogue' Symposium Held in Amman

Crown Prince Addresses Session

JN0409125889 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, said that in these closing years of the 20th century, humanity desperately needs a nonpartisan intellectual bridgehead to resolve the apparent dichotomy between the international political framework and the international socioeconomic framework.

The crown prince said that Japan is ideally positioned to help promote this intellectual bridgehead urgently

needed by mankind. He added that dialogue between the Arab world and Japan as well as the further progress of cooperation between Japan and Jordan are important for evolving the required bridgehead.

Addressing the opening session of the Arab-Japanese dialogue in Amman today, the crown prince said that he earnestly believes that collective efforts both in the Arab-Japanese framework and in the complementary sphere of Japanese-Jordanian cooperation can contribute significantly to the development of a better solution to the predicament of mankind.

The crown prince said that the global economy can be divided into seven regions. The three wealthiest regions, or blocs, are the U.S., Canada, the EEC, and Japan, together with its Asian-Australian region. The gross regional products—GRP's—of these wealthiest blocs are almost equal. Now, the other four regional blocs are Soviet Union, Latin America, and the Middle East, and also Africa. These regions, have, by contrast, widely differing GRP's and face immense challenges within the emerging pattern of the global economy.

The crown prince said concerted action and political maturity is needed both within each of these seven world regions and between them to abort the emergence of a new global dichotomy and to render these regions building blocks within the world economy.

The crown prince said a major global challenge in this current phase of rapid advances in science and technology is a realistic sharing of power among these seven regions.

The crown prince added that the recent program of economic adjustment and restructuring in Jordan goes a long way toward placing the Kingdom in a more effective position to mobilize profitable investment and joint ventures.

The crown prince ended by saying: The regulation, liberalization, and a closer integration with the world economy are the main pivots of Jordan's new economic strategy for the nineties.

Dialogue Concludes

JN0609111289 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Sep 89 p 4

[Excerpt] Amman—PETRA—The 2-day Arab-Japanese dialogue concluded in Amman yesterday. Dr Mazin al-'Armuti, rapporteur of the conference, said that the conference has not issued any final statement or joint declaration because it is a preparatory conference aimed at providing an opportunity for the two sides to acquaint themselves with each other's views on the major topics under discussion, especially since no strong base for relations between Japan and the Arab world can be built without human or intellectual communication.

At a news conference held yesterday, Dr al-'Armuti said the two sides worked out a final draft report containing a preliminary summary of the submitted working papers and researches, another preliminary summary of the discussions, a definition of some points of understanding of the principles to be observed and followed up by the two sides, and an assurance that those participating in the conference do not represent governments or official sides, but participated in their own names.

He added that the two sides agreed on the need to prolong the Arab-Japanese dialogue and recommended that it be held annually in the Arab homeland and Japan in rotation. The second conference of dialogue will be held in Tokyo next year.

He also pointed out that after reviewing Arab-Japanese relations, the conference recommended that a specific agenda for dialogue at future conferences be defined. He added that the conference also centered on certain subjects such as activating educational and scientific exchange, studying the possibility of opening Japanese cultural centers in the Arab homeland and Arab centers in Japan, speeding up the opening of academic centers in Arab and Japanese universities, and activating the work of joint educational societies and institutions.

Regarding the scientific area, the Arab side believes in the need to activate scientific and technological cooperation, especially the transfer of Japanese technology to the Arab homeland, and to set up limited Japanese investments equal to the volume of the Arab homeland's purchases of Japanese products amounting to $50 billion per year. He said this requires the establishment of Japanese investments in the Arab homeland in the area of transferring technology, with an eye on balancing purchases of technological equipment while transferring and adjusting them to serve development.

The conference urged Japan to play an important role within the seven industrialized countries to activate the North-South dialogue and to establish more balanced relations between the industrialized countries and the less developed ones, including the Arab homeland. It also called on Japan to promote and develop its political role in the region in harmony with Japan's economic weight and industrial and trade influence in the region and the world at large.

The conference also urged the Arab countries to benefit from the successful Japanese experience in the construction and administrative areas, especially in technological education, to link education with the requirements of development, and to benefit from the Japanese experience in work relations and ethics.

The two sides also affirmed the need to intensify contacts between Japan and the Arab homeland through mass media and educational and touristic channels in order to increase human communication and correct the traditional views of each other, which were created as a result of historic factors or through a third party. [passage omitted]

Crown Prince Hasan Lectures at War Academy

JN2208194189 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan today delivered a lecture at the Jordanian War Academy in which he discussed the establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC]. His royal highess pointed out that economic groupings which deal with common cooperation and the issue of raising the standards of living have become the characteristics of our age. He said bilateral cooperation is no longer useful in dealings among the various counties. The crown prince continued saying that the world today does not recognize small economic units or improvised planning. He said data studies had justified the setting up of the ACC.

The audience included the ACC Secretary General Dr Hilmi Nammar and the Secretary General of the Council of Arab Unity Hasan Ibrahim and a number of Army officers.

Crown Prince Meets European Community Expert

JN0409204989 Ammn Television Service in English 1900 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received today Mr (Carlo Vishini), a financial expert dispatched by the European Community to formulate guidelines for administrative, legislative, and legal arrangements that could enhance the level of administrative and financial performance in Jordan. Prince Hasan asked the European Community expert to define priorities in this connection and to clearly designate the bodies which should be in charge of implementation.

His royal highness pointed out that Jordan has entered a new economic era requiring strong, healthy, and capable institutions that could prevent economic crimes from happening. Jordan, the regent pointed out, views its economic role within the framework of the Arab Cooperation Council on the regional level and within the framework of its relations with the European Community, North America, and Japan on the international level.

Ministers of Education, Agriculture Appointed

JN0209120289 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Amman—A royal decree has been issued appointing His Excellency Dr 'Adnan Badran as minister of education. A royal decree has also been issued appointing His Excellency Dr Bassam al-Sakit as minister of agriculture.

Dr Bassam al-Sakit was sworn in before his majesty the king at the Royal Hashemite Court. The prime minister and the Royal Hashemite Court chief were present.

Jordanian, Iraqi Ministers Discuss Civil Defense

JN0509095689 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Baghdad—PETRA—Iraqi Interior Minister Samir Muhammad 'Abd-al-Wahhab met in Baghdad yesterday with Jordanian Civil Defense Director General Khalid al-Tarawinah. During the meeting, they discussed means of bolstering cooperation between the civil defense organs in Jordan and Iraq in order to reinforce ties between the two fraternal countries.

South Yemen Delegation Arrives in Amman 5 Sep

Ministers To Meet Counterparts

JN0509165789 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] An official delegation from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen including Dr 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Uthman, minister of industry, trade, and supply; and Dr Ahmad 'Ali Muqbil, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, arrived in Amman today on a several-day visit to the country to meet with the ministers of industry and trade and agriculture on the promotion of bilateral relations in economic, trade, and agricultural fields.

Dr 'Uthman told the Jordan News Agency that the visit of the delegation precedes the expected visit of His Excellency Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, to Jordan at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn. He said that during this visit a number of agreements and protocols covering economic, trade, and agricultural fields will be signed to promote bilateral relations of cooperation in the interest of the two fraternal peoples.

The delegation comprises the deputy planning minister, the head of the Middle East Department at the Foreign Ministry, and a number of senior officials in the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Supply, and the Ministry of Agricuture and Agrarian Reform.

Economic Talks Begin

JN0609122289 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Economic talks started in Amman today between Jordanian and South Yemeni economic delegations. The Jordanian side is headed by the Minister of Supply Mr Ibrahim Ayyub, while the Yemeni side was headed by the Minister of Industry and Trade Dr Muhammad 'Uthman.

The talks are aimed at promoting cooperation between the two countries in the fields of economy, trade, and agriculture.

The meeting was attended by the Jordanian ministers of trade and industry and agriculture and the South Yemeni minister of agriculture.

Lawyers Urge Troops To Withdraw From Lebanon

JN3008085789 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 Aug 89 p 1

[Text] Amman—The Jordanian Lawyers Association, stressing Lebanon's Arabism and territorial integrity, has called on all warring factions to immediately stop the bloodshed and find a comprehensive solution to the Lebanese crisis.

The association issued a statement calling on the Arab states to shoulder their pan-Arab and historical responsibilities to find a comprehensive solution to the Lebanese question. It also appealed to the tripartite Arab committee set up under the emergency Casablanca summit resolution to resume its efforts and submit the results of its work to an emergency Arab summit to be convened to achieve a final and comprehensive solution to the Lebanese question. Lebanon would then regain its natural role within the Arab League and make an effective contribution to our pan-Arab and fateful issues.

The association also called for using every means to remove all foreign forces from Lebanon and to enable the Lebanese people to determine their own destiny and choose their independent national government on the basis of the emergency Casablanca summit.

The Jordanian lawyers denounced the evacuation of Palestinians from Lebanon by any side, urging their immediate return to their previous places of residence, and calling on the Arab Lawyers Federation to set up a permanent bureau to follow up on the Lebanese question.

U.S. 'Plan' on Soviet Jewish Immigration Cited

JN0409115889 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Sep 89 p 20

["News Analysis" by the political editor: "Soviet Jewish Emigration and U.S. Policy"]

[Text] If the report published by THE NEW YORK TIMES yesterday that the U.S. Government has proposed a plan to prevent a large number of Soviet Jews from immigrating into the United States as refugees is true, this would constitute a serious development in U.S. policy, whether with regard to human rights or the future of the Middle East conflict.

During the tenure of the previous U.S. Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan, the United States concentrated on the human rights issue, which it considered the criterion for its relations with other states, especially those states where human rights are violated. Consequently, the United States, under pressure from Israel and world Zionist organizations, advocated a Soviet Jewish emigration policy as a prerequisite for improving relations with the USSR.

In view of Soviet leader Gorbachev's reform policy, Moscow agreed to allow Soviet Jews to leave the USSR by easing restrictions and other measures in this regard, thereby opening the floodgate to thousands of emigrants.

However, the destination of these emigrants has angered and upset the Israeli Government and the Zionist organizations whose campaigns were intended to defame the USSR and make Soviet Jews emigrate to Israel. Despite this, Soviet emigrants disappointed Zionist circles by electing to travel to the United States instead of Israel.

What causes astonishment in U.S. policy toward human rights is that the United States sets itself as protector and defender of the human rights of Jews in the USSR or Latin America. Meanwhile, it turns a blind eye to the Palestinian people's rights and to South Africa's apartheid policy, thereby provoking suspicions over Washington's credibility when this issue is addressed.

Undoubtedly, what was reported by the U.S. newspaper poses a serious threat to the future of the Arab-Israeli conflict. This is because Washington is not satisfied merely to extend economic, military, and political support to Israel, it is also carrying out Israel's intentions to acquire more new immigrants. These immigrants will bolster Israel's manpower and change the demographic balance in its favor in the aftermath of the failure of Tel Aviv's plans to convince Jews all over the world to emigrate to Israel.

There is no doubt that the U.S. stand toward Soviet Jewish immigration provides considerable assistance to the Zionist entity in light of the increasing number of people emigrating from Israel as a result of the surge in the Palestinian intifadah [uprising] and the deteriorating economic situation.

The seriousness of the U.S. stand stems from the fact that it comes at a time when all peace efforts to move the Middle East crisis toward a just and lasting solution are deadlocked because of Israeli intransigence and Washington's support for it. This brings the credibility of the U.S. policy into question and makes us wonder about the seriousness of the U.S. Administration in searching for the peace that this region needs.

The responsibility of the United States as a superpower makes it incumbent on Washington to cease its partiality toward Israel and adopt an even-handed attitude in order to launch the peace march which the Middle East peoples look forward to under international resolutions.

Sweden's Monarch, Queen To Visit in Sep

JN2808141789 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Their Majesties King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden are to make a state visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan during the second half of September 1989 at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur.

U.S. Ambassador, Embassy Staff Leave for Cyprus

Reason for Departure Unclear

NC0609063289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon John McCarthy and all the embassy staff working in Lebanon left for Cyprus at 0730 today. No reason has yet been given for their departure.

'Deterioration' in Ties Cited

NC0609102289 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0930 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Citing political sources, REUTER says that the reason for the U.S. decision to evacuate the U.S. Embassy staff from Beirut is the deterioration in the relations between General Michel 'Awn and Washington.

Sources close to 'Awn said REUTER: We did not ask them to go; perhaps they had a guilty conscience. It is better that they leave rather than remain here as false witnesses.

Sources in East Beirut have revealed to REUTER that the U.S. ambassador was harassed in the Farayya area last Sunday. Some people compelled the ambassador, who was having lunch there, to leave, on the grounds that he is an undesirable person.

Demonstrators Lift 'Siege'

NC0609101689 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0950 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Five minutes ago, at exactly 1245, the demonstrators outside the U.S. Embassy in 'Awkar ended the siege they began 17 hours ago at midday yesterday following the departure of U.S. Ambassador John McCarthy and U.S. diplomats and embassy personnel from Lebanon to Cyprus at 0700 today.

The demonstrators held a press conference from 1220 to 1245 during which they announced the end of the siege and sang the Lebanese national anthem. The demonstrators stated that the peaceful siege will be resumed if the U.S. diplomatic representation returns to Lebanon without Ambassador McCarthy presenting his credentials to the legitimate Lebanese Government under General Michel 'Awn.

It has been noted that about 20 Lebanese who work for the American Embassy went out of the embassy at 1220 and conferred with the Lebanese who were besieging the embassy. The press conference took place in their presence.

Lebanese Front on U.S. Departure

NC0609125889 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The Lebanese Front has voiced regret over the U.S. move concerning Beirut Embassy personnel. The front called on the U.S. Administration to understand the feelings of a people that is being killed and starved while its civilization is being wiped out in full view of the civilized world. The front also expressed the hope that the U.S. Administration would reconsider its move.

Furthermore, the front called on the Arab Tripartite Committee to resume its mission. The front said The committee should concentrate on establishing a cease-fire, lifting the siege, and bringing about the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

The front held a meeting today under Dr George Sa'adah. [passage omitted]

Phalangist Party leader Dr George Sa'adah expressed astonishment over the U.S. decision to evacuate its embassy personnel. Sa'adah said that the U.S. position on Lebanon was so puzzling and contradictory that we had to ask repeatedly for clarification and for action matching official U.S. statements calling for Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and independence. [passage omitted]

Ambassador Faruq Abu-al-Lam' received a written message from U.S. Ambassador John McCarthy today. U.S. Embassy adviser Jabi 'Akkar handed the message to Abu-al-Lam'.

An official source at the Foreign Ministry said that the message deals with the reasons for the U.S. diplomats' departure today for Cyprus. The source said that the departure was due solely to security reasons concerning the diplomats' personal safety and that no political reasons were involved. The source said that the Americans' departure does not mean that the U.S. Embassy is closed or that the Americans have abandoned their position in Lebanon. The source stated that the U.S. diplomats will return to their work in Lebanon as soon as the reasons for which they left have been eliminated. [passage omitted]

'Awn on Departure of 'American Cain'

NC0609075889 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has commented on the departure of the Americans from Lebanon by saying: It seems that the American Cain could no longer look Abel in the eye, so he left.

It has been learned that the U.S. Embassy informed the Foreign Ministry yesterday of the decision that the ambassador and the embassy staff would leave Beirut. All the U.S. officials' scheduled appointments have been canceled, including a meeting between the new U.S. charge d'affaires and Phalangist Party leader George Sa'adah which was due to take place at 0930 today.

Fadlallah Calls on Bush To Show 'Goodwill'

NC0609072289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] A delegation representing the Palestinian deportees, accompanied by Abu-'Imad Shatila and Suhayl al-Natur of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has visited Ayatollah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah and briefed him on the progress of the intifadah [uprising] and on Zionist terrorist practices.

In another development, Ayatollah Fadlallah called on U.S. President George Bush to demonstrate U.S. goodwill toward the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this way, Fadlallah said, Washington may facilitate the release of the hostages held in Lebanon.

In an interview published yesterday in THE WASHINGTON POST, Fadlallah urged Washington to make efforts to relieve the suffering and improve the treatment of the prisoners and Islamic hostages held by the Zionist occupation forces.

'Awn Reportedly Willing To Relinquish Position

Seeks Syrian Withdrawal Guarantee

NC0509143289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS cites informed Western diplomatic sources as saying that Michel 'Awn, leader of the military clique, is willing to relinquish his position as a so-called head of government in the context of a comprehensive political agreement that would guarantee an arrangement in which the Syrians would withdraw from Lebanon under the supervision of the Arab Tripartite Committee. The sources added that 'Awn no longer demands an immediate Syrian withdrawal but wants a formal Syrian commitment to withdraw from Lebanon.

AL-QABAS adds that 'Awn is ready to guarantee Syria's security in Lebanon, according to the Western diplomatic sources.

Further on Conditions

NC0509195489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] A source close to Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has stressed that General 'Awn is ready to give up power [al-Takhalli 'an al-Sultah] if he receives advance pledges that the Syrian Army will withdraw from Lebanon.

The source said that 'Awn approves of any plan that will lead to the liberation of Lebanon in a guaranteed and sure way. In this context he is ready to return the army to its barracks and to give up power.

'Awn Readiness To Step Down

NC0509190089 Paris AFP in English 1849 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text], Sep 5 (AFP)—Lebanese Christian leader General Michel 'Awn is ready to abandon his contested post as premier once he has guarantees of a Syrian military withdrawal from Lebanon, a source close to the general said Tuesday.

The source, in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, was speaking after the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Qabas reported that Gen 'Awn would step down as leader of Lebanon's Christian government if Syria offered an "official commitment" to withdrawing its estimated 35,000 troops.

The general and mainly Christian army units have been waging a "war of liberation" against Syrian forces and their Lebanese Moslem allies since mid-March.

Syria currently backs Moslem demands for political reform in Lebanon, changes that Gen 'Awn says cannot be considered until a Syrian withdrawal is under way.

Gen 'Awn supports "any plan that would lead to the certain and guaranteed liberation of Lebanon and is ready to return the army to its barracks and leave power," the source said. [passage omitted]

Syria Reportedly Sets 5 Conditions for Solution

NC0609143289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Citing highly placed Arab sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS reports Syrian officials have made it clear to Arab quarters that the Syrian leadership will not cooperate in implementing the Tripartite Committee's current plan to resolve the Lebanese crisis.

According to the same sources, Syria expressed its readiness to cooperate with the committee in drawing up a plan to solve the crisis based on five Syrian demands:

1. The Tripartite Committee should relinquish its demand for a timetable for the phased withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanon, because this matter is purely a Lebanese-Syrian affair;

2. The Tripartite Committee should not demand that the Syrian forces be withdrawn from Beirut and the mountain area and be deployed in al-Biqa' by a certain deadline;

3. The Tripartite Committee should not demand that a Lebanese-Syrian security agreement be signed, because this should take place after the formation of a government of national accord, as the Syrian leadership put it;

4. The Syrian leadership rejects the Tripartite Committee's proposal for an agreement between the Syrian and Lebanese Governments defining the location and extent

of the Syrian forces' presence in al-Biqa', because this issue concerns the Lebanese and Syrians alone; and

5. The Tripartite Committee should abandon the formula outlined in its plan for the nature and future of relations between Lebanon and Syria.

'Awn Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Anniversary

NC0109175489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn today sent a message to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to congratulate him on the anniversary of the 1 September revolution. He also briefed Al-Qadhdhafi on the situation and developments in Lebanon, particularly since the Arab tripartite committee's declaration. He called on Al-Qadhdhafi to help Lebanon so peace can be restored and the foreign forces withdrawn from its territory.

Libyab leader Al-Qadhdhafi has recognized Gen 'Awn's government as the legitimate government.

Al-Qadhdhafi on 'Lebanese Quagmire,' Arab Unity

NC0209181989 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said that it is better for things to remain as they are in Lebanon so that whoever wants to become a martyr, commit suicide, or make himself a shaykh, sultan, or an authoritative person can do so.

He added: The situation in Lebanon has become so complicated that we must refrain from getting involved in the Lebanese quagmire where a war to settle accounts is raging between the Iraqis and the Syrians and between the Iranians and the Iraqis.

In an interview with the Nicosia-based Arabic magazine AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI, the Libyan leader said that the situation today is better than it was at the beginning of the war because the alliances have become inter-Arab ones. He added that General 'Awn is allied with Iraq and Saudi Arabia and this is better than being allied with Israel. He noted that Libya's stand is firm and is on the side of the so-called National Movement and said that his country can support the movement and at the same time be friendly with another party that does not belong to the movement.

[Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 1615 GMT on 2 September in a report on Al-Qadhdhafi's interview adds: "Al-Qadhdhafi expressed hope that the Arab world will witness events similar to events in Lebanon and that there would be disdain for the Arab governments, their amirs, sultans, leaders, and armies. He said that a civil war must burn the Arab map, and borders should have no sanctity even if the war lasts a thousand years in order to achieve a strong unity."]

Hizballah Leader Rejects Negotiations With Israel

NC0309194789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Husayn al-Musawi, a Hizballah leader, has said: We are not going to negotiate with Israel even if the entire Hizballah command is kidnapped with 200 Muslim 'ulema. In a statement to the press in Suhmur in western al-Biqa', al-Musawi said that Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd does not have any information and was not in any position of responsibility.

We know how to win the freedom of our brother without recognizing the Israeli entity, al-Musawi said, adding: The only way we know of negotiations is that of martyr Shaykh As'ad Birru [who carried out a suicide car bombing in southern Lebanon].

Hizballah's Al-Tufayli Comments on 'Awn, Others

NC0409090089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli has stated that we are witnessing a battle between Islam and world atheism. Therefore, we must draw up our plans for this confrontation because we are an important part of this battle.

His eminence then posed a question to Yasir 'Arafat, saying: Why do you want to impose your failure and lassitude on the Islamic nation? Why do you want to impose ignominy and dishonor on us? Either finish your march or step aside.

At a ceremony held by the Islamic Resistance in Mashgharah in honor of the martyrs who fell in 'Ayn Bu Siwar one week ago, Shaykh al-Tufayli said: They say that the problem is one between the army in the eastern [Christian] area and the Syrian Army. They call for the departure of the Syrian Army from Beirut because it is the problem. Contrary to what they are claiming, we are their real targets. We hope we will have the opportunity to confront 'Awn and purge the land of these dirty infidels.

He added: We are threatened with being dispersed all over the world so that Lebanon will remain for 'Awn. We must adhere to our land because our battle is the battle of Islam, the battle of Muhammad, may God's peace and prayers be with him.

On the resumption of the Arab tripartite committee's work, his eminence said: This is a crusader committee. It is a party to the conflict in Lebanon. Therefore, we reject it. We do not expect anything good from it because it incites 'Awn to attack our sons and villages.

Shaykh al-Tufayli stressed that at this delicate phase we need all our unity and strength in order to defend our nation.

Communists, Hizballah Agree To Promote Ties

NC0609071089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] A delegation from the Lebanese Communist Party yesterday visited Hizballah's political bureau in the southern Suburb. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed relations and agreed on the need to promote them in view of the need for closer ties between the nationalist and Islamic forces.

Hizballah Article Hails Border Attacks on Israel

NC0609103989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Political commentary: "The Open Fronts"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The borders between Jordan and the Zionist entity have been fairly quiet for some 20 years, undisturbed by the slightest incident or the smallest problem. The peace on its borders with the regime of little King Husayn relieved Israel of a major part of the burden of defending its borders with several Arab countries, thus enabling the rulers of the artificial ministate to concentrate their security and military attention on Lebanon and its people.

It is clear to those interested in ways of continuing the war and conflict with Israel that opening resistance fronts in the countries bordering occupied Palestine would undoubtedly shake the internal structure of the Zionist entity. This is clear to all people with common sense and the ability to understand the nature of the internal structure of this artificial entity.

A comparison of the size of the Arab and Islamic resources in the quiet area encircling stolen Palestine and the potential of the Zionists makes it hard to believe that Israel has survived for so long or that it can continue to exist for long.

If military action by the resistance on the borders or within Palestine could exhaust the Zionist entity, then what would happen to that entity if a large-scale military action is waged in a concentrated and coordinated way across all those fronts? [passage omitted]

This year, four operations were carried out on Jordan's front with occupied Palestine. The first three were falsely attributed to deranged or mentally unstable people. However, the fourth operation, carried out last Saturday morning, has forced the leaders of the Zionist entity to face the bitter truth and consider what to do about this new phenomenon. They ended up throwing the ball into the king's court and blaming the new situation on the long borders with Jordan. The enemy's leaders admitted that such cross-border operations cannot be totally eliminated.

Infiltration of Palestine's borders by Jordanian military men to attack Zionist patrols, and earlier operations across Egyptian borders, prove the impossibility of peaceful coexistence between Muslims and the usurpers of the holy city of Jerusalem.

The shots fired by strugglers in south Lebanon are heard by the Muslims in Jordan and Egypt. Those Muslims understand that the goal is unity in fighting and defeating the enemy. [passage omitted]

Iraq Reportedly Halts Arms Shipments to 'Awn

JN0509150989 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 4 Sep 89 pp 1, 15

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Diplomatic sources in Tripoli are expecting a Syrian initiative designed to bring about a revival of the Arab Tripartite Committee, which may resume its efforts on the ministerial level during the Nonaligned Movement summit due to begin in Belgrade today.

AL-WATAN has learned that King Husayn of Jordan is making efforts and making contacts with the goal of finding a speedy solution to the Lebanese crisis. Husayn paved the way for this move by sending messages to the Iraqi, Saudi, Algerian, Moroccan, and North Yemeni leaders containing some Jordanian ideas proposed to resolve the crisis.

It has been learned that Iraq has halted its arms shipments to 'Awn, thanks to the efforts made by Jordan in this regard.

Israeli Forces Escalate 'Aggression' in South

NC0609082989 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Israeli occupation forces have escalated their acts of aggression against the southern areas in the past few hours and continue to shell the liberated areas there.

According to information received from the occupied border strip, Israeli occupation forces are still besieging a number of villages in the western sector of al-Naqurah, including Yarin, Marwahin, and Al-Duhayrah, and search the villages periodically.

Movements by agent Antoine Lahd's militia have been monitored on the hills overlooking the Al-Nabatiyh area.

A resistance fighter was martyred in a clash with Israeli occupation forces near the border town of Ramiyah in the western sector in the south. Resistance fighters used Katyushas and mortars to attack agent Lahd's barracks in al-'Ayshiyah and enemy positions on the Bint Jubayl axis. They also destroyed vehicles belonging to the occupation forces in Al-'Ayshiyah and Al-Tayyibah and on the Kafr Falus front.

Israeli Aircraft Overflights Continue

Fly Over Sidon, Camps

NC0509132189 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes flew over Sidon and the nearby camps this afternoon.

Aircraft Drop Flares

NC0509200889 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Guarded calm prevails on the combat lines of the capital, the Suburb, and the Mountain in the wake of sporadic skirmishes on some of the fronts. Meanwhile, Israeli fighter aircraft flew over Sidon and the nearby camps at 2045 tonight. The planes dropped flares over the area.

Mock Raids Over Sidon

NC0609065889 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Guarded calm prevails over all the combat lines in Beirut, the suburb, and the mountain, following intermittent clashes overnight involving rockets and machineguns.

Zionist military planes overflew western Al-Biqa' area at high altitudes at 2245 yesterday. Zionist planes also overflew Sidon and the nearby Palestinian camps last night, firing illumination rounds and carrying out mock raids. The aircraft were confronted with intensive anti-aircraft fire.

Al-Shar' Releases Letter Refuting Iraqi 'Lies'

JN0609070589 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has addressed a letter to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi refuting the Iraqi regime's lies mentioned in Iraqi regime's Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz's letter addressed to the Arab League General Secretariat on 17 August 1989. Al-Shar' requested that the letter be circulated to the member states and listed as a topic on the Arab League Council's agenda during its 92d session, under the headline "The Position of the Baghdad Rulers and Israel in Lebanon." Ahmad 'Isa, Syria's permanent representative at the Arab League, conveyed Al-Shar's letter to the Arab League secretary general. Following is the text of the letter:

Arab League secretary general, Tunis. Heartfelt greetings. I am writing you to draw your attention to the letter of the Iraqi minister, which contained misleading lies and false accusations against my country and which the Arab League General Secretariat circulated on 3 September 1989 after the Iraqi media organs published it on 18 August 1989. The Iraqi official's letter included irresponsible remarks and was written in a style that conflicts with the norms of communication among the Arab League member states.

1. In his letter, the Iraqi regime claims that Michel 'Awn is the head of the legitimate government in Lebanon while no Arab League member state has recognized the legitimacy of that government. Although some foreign countries do not conceal their support for Michel 'Awn, they will not recognize him as legitimate head of the Lebanese Governmment out of their concern for the feelings of the Arabs and Muslims and out of their awareness that such recognition will conflict with the Lebanese constitution and the will of the overwhelming majority of the factions of the Lebanese people, who consider the government of Dr Salim al-Huss the legitimate government in Lebanon.

2. The Lebanese nationalist and Islamic forces and parties, which met in Damascus on 15 August 1980, represent the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people. Attending that meeting were two ministers in the present Lebanese Government, which won the confidence of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies in 1984, rather than the alleged 'Awn government. The Damascus meetings were also attended by deputies, several nationalist parties, and key Islamic and Christian political figures, who are known for their nationalist struggle in defense of Lebanon's unity and Arabism, their patriotic confrontation of the Israeli occupation, their expulsion of the Israeli forces from most of the Lebanese territories, their efforts to undermine the 17 May agreement, and for their continued sacrifice in offering large numbers of martyrs to liberate the last inch of southern Lebanon. The participation of the leaders of the Palestinian resistance factions in the Damascus meeting was an expression of the joint goals that link these Palestinian factions and the nationalists with the Islamic parties and forces in their confrontation of and resistance against the Zionist enemy.

3. The participation of the Iranian foreign minister in this meeting stresssed the Iranian revolution's anti-Zionist position. It was strange that the Baghdad rulers cooperated with the shah of Iran, who was known for his close cooperation with Israel, while they are hostile to the Iranian revolution, which announced from the beginning its support for the Palestine question and the Arab right to confront Israel. The situation is repeated in Lebanon, when the Iraqi regime supports a clique known for its cooperation with Israel against the Islamic and Christian majority in Lebanon, which adheres to its Arabism and resistance against Israel.

4. It is no secret that this isolationist clique, which is led at this stage by Michel 'Awn, would not have been able to continue to reject the national accord and equality with the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people were it not for Israel's continued support and protection. It is also no longer a secret that the additional support that has recently been extended by the Baghdad rulers to this clique has encouraged it to continue its intransigence and rejection, to adopt military options, and to explode the situation in Lebanon on 14 March. This has caused much killing, destruction, suffering, and displacement of the Lebanese people.

We do not exaggerate if we say that the Baghdad rulers' policies and practices not only threaten Lebanon's unity and security, but expose the Arab nation to the gravest dangers and pave the way for the establishment of a second Israel in Lebanon.

5. The statement issued by the Islamic spiritual leaders in Lebanon on 26 August 1980, the statement issued by the Lebanese nationalist parties and forces on 16 August 1980, the statement issued by the Islamic grouping on 24 August 1980, the joint statement issued by Sulayman Fanjiyah and 'Umar Karami, and the positions adopted and other statements issued by many key Lebanese Islamic and Christian figures praise Syria's policy in Lebanon. This clearly reveals the Iraqi regime's lies about Syria's role in Lebanon.

6. The position of the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese that calls for strong relations with Syria emphasizes the great positive role being played by Syria in Lebanon. This is asserted by the Higher Tripartite Committee in the fourth paragraph of the third clause of its report addressed to the Arab leaders on the committee's contacts with the Lebanese sides. This also refutes the Baghdad rulers' allegations and stresses their destructive role in this fraternal role. While drawing attention to the dangers of the Baghdad rulers' practices and policies against the Arab nation's security, Syria appeals to the General Secretariat to circulate this letter among the fraternal Arab countries and asks for listing a topic on the agenda of the Arab League Council ordinary

session under the headline "The position of the Baghdad Rulers and Israel in Lebanon." Please accept our heartfelt greetings and appreciation.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Holds News Conference 22 Aug

LD2308111589 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 22 Aug 89

[News conference given by President Najibullah in Delkosha Palace in Kabul on 22 August—recorded]

[Text] [Najibullah] Dear journalists and respected friends. As this has become a tradition which we should not ignore and should follow, I shall present a short introduction and then the written questions by the esteemed journalists will be answered. Deviating from previous tradition, this time a small number of written questions by journalists have been put to me. I believe they will be waiting for the third part, in which they will perhaps put their questions verbally.

Allow me to say that we are pleased to meet you at a time when the heroic and freedom-loving people of Afghanistan are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the independence of their country and are commemorating the deeds of their heroic and courageous fathers in defending the homeland, territorial integrity, independence, freedom, and national sovereignty of their country.

Dear journalists, in these days the courageous people of Afghanistan are experiencing the most critical, difficult, but, the most honorable and proud days of their lives. Events and developments of the past year—that is, the developments after the conclusion of the Geneva accords—indicate that despite the sincerity of the Afghan side and of the Soviet Union in observing these accords and the peaceful initiatives and flexible approaches which have been put forward by the Republic of Afghanistan for the political solution of the Afghan question, the situation still remains tense, and as a result of the brazen violation of these accords and other norms and international agreements, foreign interference in our internal affairs amounting to aggression has intensified and broadened. In the course of the past 6 months, after the withdrawal of the limited contingents of the Soviet Union from the Afghan territory, the armed opposition—particularly the opposition leaders on Pakistani territory working under the instructions of the military and civilian espionage and intelligence networks of Pakistan and the United States—embarked on creating a so-called interim government.

By devising a plan of [words indistinct] the interim government inside Afghanistan, with very extensive participation by the Pakistani regular and militia forces [words indistinct] attempted to launch extensive aggression against Afghanistan cities and provinces, among them the cities of Jalalabad, Khowst and Qandahar.

The United States, in order to intensify the anti-Afghan war and even to organize directly this interference and aggression, sent Peter Tomsen, its special envoy to Pakistan, to prepare the grounds for terrorist actions in Afghanistan by promising delivery of advanced lethal weapons for the massacre of innocent people. This action is indicative of the fact that the United States is no longer a guarantor [of the Geneva accords], but as a party which speaks of a political solution to the Afghanistan question, actually allowed itself to become one of the sides in war in Afghanistan. [Words indistinct] of the lethal weapons, the United States is no longer a guarantor of the implementation of the Geneva accords, but is a party to the war against the people of Afghanistan. It has in effect moved into the ranks of international terrorists as a result of the massacre of the civilian and defenseless people by U.S. missiles.

Notwithstanding [words indistinct] the efforts, developments on the national and international level are turning in favor of the people of Afghanistan and of the state of the Republic of Afghanistan. There has been a sharpening of internal clashes among the extremist leaders, the weakness and apathy of the so-called interim government in asserting its identity, of differences in theory and in deeds, and a worsening of factionalism and differences between the leaders of the extremists on the one side and the low-level commanders on the other hand. The discord between the leaders and the local commanders particularly concerns attacks on the cities against innocent people. All these facts have [words indistinct] on the level of the region and the world have fundamentally changed vis-a-vis the leaders of extremists and vis-a-vis the so-called interim government and the solution of the Afghanistan question.

The Republic of Afghanistan Government [words indistinct] and its armed forces, while faced with war, interference, and agression from abroad, has proved its strength against the warmongers and interferers with the continuation of national reconciliation with its firm belief in the restoration of peace through dialogue, reconciliation, and conciliation. Moreover, it has the unqualified support of its people. We are proud of the fact that in world social circles, world political circles, the mass media, even—it can be clearly said—the West also, judgments are being fundamentally altered. The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan is searching for all ways and methods to ensure as wide as possible a coalition of forces and to form a government on the basis of this coalition of forces. Not only does it support all proposals and drives by other countries and the United Nations organization, which want a peaceful resolution to the Afghanistan problem, but also the government of the Republic of Afghanistan itself is, in practice, the initiator of ever newer proposals for the creation of a leadership council, a coalition government, and has submitted detailed plans for such mechanisms, as a result of which it has proved its loyalty to the [words indistinct] and the peaceful resolution of the problem of Afghanistan.

Besides its peaceful proposals, the Republic of Afghanistan expresses its readiness to assess any proposal for ensuring peace and the cessation of war and bloodshed in the country. The Republic of Afghanistan Government believes that observance of the Geneva agreements and the Resolution of the 43d UN General Assembly session can help in the peaceful resolution of the complex of problems concerning Afghanistan in the shortest possible time.

Our people are not only tired of the war, which will last, it is believed, until the last Afghan [words indistinct]. Therefore, the Republic of Afghanistan appeals to all peaceloving countries and international organizations, including that credible organization, the United Nations, and will continue to do so. To apply all their efforts to ending the war and to helping our people restore peace in their country, the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan believes that insistence on a military resolution and any attempt to neglect the demand of the people of Afghanistan [words indistinct] and prolong the misery and sorrow of our innocent people. [Words indistinct] now all forces, especially over the past 6 months have exposed those who are really on the side of peace and security in the service of the people of Afghanistan and those who are instigating killing, war, and bloodshed to the extent of using the horrifying and mass killing weapons from the United States, which until yesterday was supplying arms to the so-called freedom lovers. Those who fought for freedom who are today confronted by the innocent people, civilians in the cities and the provinces of the country, cannot claim that they are taking steps for freedom and providing arms to freedom lovers. The United States is supplying professional terrorists with weapons, and itself has become a part of this international terrorism as its instigator and controller.

This judgment [words indistinct] but this judgment on this policy of the United States has also appeared in the world public opinion. We are grateful to public opinion and the mass media in the United States and the people of America and many intelligent people and groups there. This rationale can be seen in the U.S. Congress where the Bush administration is questioned as to whether the continued supply of horrifying weapons to the opponent forces of the Republic of Afghanistan for mass killing and against the revolution and the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan will damage the international prestige of the United States. It has certainly damaged it. I think this rationale will soon [words indistinct].

We are confident that the trend will move in the direction in which even the U.S. Administration's authorities will recognize the futility of continuing the war and, considering the objective realities of the Afghan society, will bring about serious changes in their policies.

This is neither our wish nor our ideological inclination, but developments and events, particularly those in Afghanistan following the withdrawal of the limited units of the Soviet Union, have brought about such legal obligations and necessities that whether or not anybody wants to, he must accept such realities. However, it is in the interests of the United States that, prior to the further loss of innocent lives or the spilling of any more blood, it should give up its superficial theories, such as setting deadlines of 1-2 weeks, 1 month, 1 season, one Afghan season, or talking about snowfall, rain, or sunshine. They should give up such nonsense and see where they stand. They raise a hue and cry in other parts of the world about defending the democratic process, but in Afghanistan they defend the process of military pressure.

A formidable question arises: What does U.S. policy seek? Military pressure or the real strengthening of the democratization process? One person, William Higgins, was assassinated in Lebanon as a result of reaction to the abduction of 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd, and a hue and cry reverberated across the whole world, claiming this was terrorism—a U.S. subject had been eliminated. In Afghanistan, however, dozens of missiles were launched at Kabul city in a single day. You can see yourself that 100, 150, or 200 people were killed or injured. I think the world would say that this mass killing is international terrorism and state terrorism. A comparison can be made here: If one U.S. subject is of such significance that the U.S. Congress must adopt a resolution stating that Bush must use all possibilities to react in a revengeful manner against this action by the terrorists, why does not an international court, world public opinion, or international peace force raise the question that not only 1, 10, or 100, but hundreds of people are killed here and who is responsible for this mass killing?

Perhaps they might accuse us, saying that we also use rockets, but we have said in response that we are ready, if peace is guaranteed and a cease-fire is observed here [passage indistinct] and international guarantees as a result of holding international conference, are given [passage indistinct].

This formidable question, which is being put before the U.S. Congress at this very moment, will be strengthened further. Once again, the responsibility will rest with this administration to answer the questions of their people, their congressmen. I anticipate that soon the question of whether the U.S. position regarding the supply of weapons is correct and rational, or incorrect and aimless, will dominate the U.S. and international atmosphere. I am hoping that a rational and logical approach will take the place of unrealistic activities and of subjectivism, of hasty and wishful actions.

Although I promised to speak briefly, I will stop here and our esteemed friends can raise their questions. I am at your service. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified moderator] [name indistinct], from AGENCE-FRANCE PRESS, has raised this question:

Since January, Soviet diplomats have been quoting you, saying that you will step down in the interests of peace. During an interview with AFP last year, you said you

would step down if this meets an objective. You added that stepping down at this time would accomplish no objective in your view. Now that 6 months have elapsed from the withdrawal of the Soviet troops, please explain your position regarding this point.

[Najibullah] First, I must say that my position vis-a-vis this issue and other issues is based on foundations and principles, as well as the political and humane principles in which I believe. Once again, I want to repeat that I would not for a minute spare my life or myself to achieve peace, restore security, and end the war and bloodshed in the country. [passage indistinct] In my opinion, the stepping down of one personality, a political force, or a political party is not on issue, but an agreement between personalities, groups, and political forces who can involve themselves in a common activity for the restoration of peace can solve the Afghanistan issue.

[Moderator] Another question from the same journalist. [passage indistinct]

[Najibullah] The commission in charge of activities put before it by the Grand Assembly held in April [passage indistinct]. As far as the work of the intermediary commission is concerned, under the present circumstance I do not regard it wise to reveal details of its tasks and activities.

[Moderator] The AGENCE-FRANCE PRESS reporter raises another question: A number of opposition groups (?fear) the imposition of a solution on Afghanistan from abroad, that is, by the United States and the Soviet Union. [passage indistinct]

[Najibullah] It is should be clearly stated that the resolution of the external aspect of the problem, provided it is carried out sensibly and realistically, can bring about the acceleration of the resolution of the internal aspects of the problem of Afghanistan. But it must be clear that the internal aspect of the process of resolving the problem can only be achieved by Afghans. It seems irrational to forget internal cooperation and other factors of the problem when trying to reach agreement on resolving the external aspects of the issue. Therefore, we believe that agreements between the United States and the USSR should have a positive impact on reaching understanding in connection with the resolution of internal problems.

[Moderator] Thank you. Another question is raised in this way. [Passage indistinct] will Western diplomats return to Afghanistan at the end of September?

[Najibullah] The perception of the situation—on the basis of which Western diplomats were withdrawn from our country—has now changed. But I believe more time is needed for Western policymakers to conform their policies to the existing realities of our country. As far we are concerned, whenever they return to Afghanistan they will be welcome. Meanwhile, we, as the host country, will observe and respect all our national obligations, as well as those of the UN Charter and our international covenant.

[Moderator] Thank you. As Your Excellency maintained, most journalists wanted to ask their question verbally. The respected journalists can now pose their questions.

[(Taheri), in Persian] Your Excellency, my name is (Ahmad Taheri) from a newspaper in the south of Germany. I have two questions. Western press reports stated that some Shiite groups have grown closer to the Kabul government, i.e., a type of understanding has come into existence over national reconciliation. If this is true, is this due to the internal policy of the Kabul government or because of closeness between the Government of Iran and the USSR after the visit of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Moscow? That is my first question.

The second question: The Government of Afghanistan in previous years repeatedly asked ex-King Zahir Shah to come to Afghanistan and play a role in the national reconciliation policy. Is this policy still in force, and can Zahir Shah play a role?

[Najibullah] Thank you. I think there is no question of the forms [as heard]. We have moderates. They are supporters of the king. The fundamental factor are the local commanders who play a prominent role. Understanding, dialogue, negotiation continue with these circles and refugees' representatives, and some direction, some results have been achieved. Recently you saw them on our television. The question of joining or surrendering to the Republic of Afghanistan is not at issue. A sensible policy has been proposed, i.e., the ensuring of peace, which is backed by the people of Afghanistan. Even the rank and file and outstanding commanders wish to end the war of Afghan against Afghan.

On the other hand, there are calls for war. No doubt every force, group, party, and personality can find an honorable choice for himself; that is, the path of negotiation, dialogue, and peaceful settlement of the problem of Afghanistan. There are possibilities for resolving the problem of Afghanistan. Therefore, what is the need for continuing the war? The main factor in our negotiations with various sides is based on the continuation of such a policy.

And no doubt external and international factors cannot be unrelated to the problems of Afghanistan, especially those in the region where Afghanistan is situated. Therefore, with good intentions, we welcome the development of recent events for improving relations between Iran and the USSR and approve them [words indistinct] but also so far as we are concerned [words indistinct] the development of relations among all countries and governments, especially in the region.

[Question by unidentified correspondent speaking in English] [Words indistinct].

[Moderator] Thank you. His first question is: You put forward new proposals for a political resolution of the problem of Afghanistan on the occasion of 70th independence anniversary last Saturday. Could you please give

some more information in this respect? The second question concerns whether you are satisfied with the role played by the United Nations for a search for a political resolution of Afghan problem. If you are not satisfied what do you expect from the United Nations?

[Najibullah] In response to the first question, I think enough has been said in the speech on the occasion of the gaining of independence, and the whole mechanism is stated in detail. If there is a point of special interest please tell me and I will answer it. I do not see any reason for its repetition; you must have read it. As far as the second question is concerned we are grateful that as a result of the good offices of this organization the Geneva accords were concluded. And all bases and principles have come to existence, if these agreement are implemented by all sides, that peace will soon be restored in our country. It must be said that the UN mechanism for the Geneva accords' implementation has faced slowness due to the interference and military doctrine of some international powers. We hope that both the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan and the United Nations, especially Perez du Cuellar who has a mandate from 43d session of the UN General Assembly, will play their role actively for the observance of the Geneva accords by all sides and for the restoration of peace to the country through a sensible resolution of the problem of Afghanistan. We hope that the United Nations will be able to play its role in this respect actively.

[Moderator] I would like to note that none of the journalists in Kabul have received your speech that contains your proposal. This is why we asked this question.

[Najibullah] This is the first time I hear that the journalists have not read it since Saturday and that they do not read current issues. I would briefly say that our proposal is. [sentence as heard] Our goal is the ensuring of peace, not seeking position, nor ambition, nor [words indistinct], nor the monopoly of power. Peace for [words indistinct]. We proposed a mechanism for the maintenance of peace: A cease-fire will be declared for 6 months and should be observed by all sides; negotiation and dialogue will commence; a leadership council will be formed with the participation of all political forces and their representative and all those who are interested in peace. After the creation of this council a broad-based coalition government will be formed.

This government will oversee the circumstances of the ceasefire observance in the country. It will have the task of drafting a new constitution and will convene the Grand Assembly for its approval. Meanwhile, a law for the elections for Meli Shura will be drafted and will be put to the Grand Assembly for approval. Afterward, elections in line with the Constitution and election laws will be held. A new government can come into existence on the basis of a majority party or multiparty or a coalition of parties. The internal aspect of the mechanism we proposed contains this. In external aspects we are interested in convening an international conference with the participation of the neighboring country, ie., Afghanistan itself, Iran, Pakistan, India, China and the United States and the USSR as guarantors. There we will raise various aspects of the resolution of problems around Afghanistan. We are ready to accept permanent neutralization of Afghanistan with the principle of its demilitarization, provided sufficient guarantees are offered and the sociopolitical rights of the people of Afghanistan will also be guaranteed. Such is the mechanism we offered in internal and external aspects for the ensuring of peace.

[Correspondent, in English, translated into Dari by moderator] I have a question myself and one from an Italian journalist who, unfortunately, had to leave this morning. My question concerns the fact that the opposition forces have said they will continue fighting until your government is ousted. Do you believe the government can resist this policy of the mujahidin only by using defensive military tactics—the prime policy of the government?

[Najibullah] I would rather you did not use the term of mujahidin but terrorists. We would rather it be called not the continuation of war but of terrorism. It is good that you raise the question on the inhuman stance and the mass killing by opposition forces, especially their irrational leaders, that they concede they want to continue terrorism with U.S. lethal weapons as long as the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan exists. Let me give you an example: I tell you that right now there are serious differences among internal commanders and the chiefs in Peshawar and between moderates and sensible circles among the seven-party alliance. [sentence as heard] The differences concern whether they should continue the war against innocent people and use mass killing. I think the lifespan of terrorism and mass killing is not long. As far as our tactics are concerned, we prefer, and our choice is, the path of peace and a political resolution of the problem of Afghanistan. However, if others impose war on us and want to continue mass killing, we favor defending the high interests of the people of Afghanistan and will defend this position. I think this tactic is the defense of the people of Afghanistan, its territorial integrity, independence, and national sovereignty, and the prevention of the disintegration of Afghanistan is the sacred duty of every Afghan. We will continue this way.

[Qudus] [Words indistinct] reporter of the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY. The ninth session of the heads of the Nonaligned Movement will soon be held in Belgrade. Please give tell us about the effectiveness of this session to resolve regional issues and fulfill the wishes of the people of Afghanistan.

[Najibullah] The ninth session of the Nonaligned Movement heads of states in Belgrade has entailed wide and comprehensive tasks in its declaration.

I say this because the Afghan problem is a regional problem, and you asked about the wishes of the people of Afghanistan. I think the Nonaligned Movement can play

an important role in alleviating regional tension and thereby remove international tension, especially as the Republic of Afghanistan is one of the founders of the Nonaligned Movement. The Nonaligned Movement can also play an important role in ensuring peace and security in the region, and also in stabilizing the world situation, safeguarding the national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of countries, aborting plots of the enemies of peace and progress, protecting the environment and the rational balance of political and military forces and the balance of economy against economic discrimination [as heard], and rallying all peaceloving forces. The people of Afghanistan hope the ninth session of the Nonaligned Movement will unanimously emphasize the cessation of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. Now we can call it the cessation of aggression from abroad against the Republic of Afghanistan and the political resolution of the problem of Afghanistan and the observance of the spirit and letter of the Geneva accords and its implementation by various sides. We will urge Pakistan and the United States—signatories and guarantors of the agreements—to implement the Geneva accords, not to being a party to the Afghan dispute. We hope the movement will play its role in this direction. This is the wish of the people of Afghanistan.

[Wasiq] Sayd Yaqub Wasiq, correspondent of the Republic of Afghanistan Radio-TV. Esteemed President, can we know your view about the circumstances of the the supervision on the implementation of the Geneva accords.

[Najibullah] I have previously answered a part of your question. It should be said, however, that the signing of the Geneva accords, as the real key of the resolution for the cessation of war and the ensurance of peace in the Republic of Afghanistan, can have fundamental importance. Regretfully, the passage of time showed that these agreements have been honestly observed by the Republic of Afghanistan. Pakistan and the United States think that the implementation of the Geneva accords only meant the withdrawal of the limited units of the USSR and that the agreements haved been fulfilled and the spirit and letter of the agreements are met. The withdrawal of the limited units of the USSR, however, was accepted as an inter-relationship issue. The main issues were noninterference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and the preparation of possibilities for the return of the refugees.

The fundamental issue is the cessation of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and the preparation of grounds for the dignified return of the refugees. As far as these two fundamental aspects of the Geneva accords go, the Geneva accords still remain to be implemented. The Republic of Afghanistan believes that, in light of our experiences, if the mechanism of control and supervision does not function in its supervision over the implementation of these accords in a precise and practical manner, the tragedy of Afghanistan can even further intensify; the responsibility for this will rest with the executors of this mechanism. Therefore, I believe the further practical, concrete, and specific supervision of the United Nations Organization over the implementation of the Geneva accords could help toward the solution of the problem of Afghanistan.

[Liz Doucet, in English, followed by moderator's Dari translation] Liz Doucet of the BBC. Mr Najibullah, you have repeatedly proposed a cease-fire and an international conference, as well as the creation of a broad-based coalition government. Everytime you make these proposals, the leaders of the opposition state that you should, prior to the commencement of the talks in this regard, step down. What is new in the new proposals, in your opinion? Does the probability exist that if the opposition accepts your proposals, you and a number of members of the Afghan Government will leave power? Would the council rule the country for breaking the deadlock? [sentence as heard] My second question is that in your previous news conferences, you have hinted at a trilateral conference of the Soviet Union, Iran, and Pakistan. Would you accept the issuance of a declaration in this regard? Have you taken steps forward in this regard, because Pakistan has rejected the question of confederation of the neighboring countries, which has been put forward by Iran? My third question is that for a long time now you have been talking about secret talks with the leaders of various groups of opposition and the internal commanders. However, you have never told us as to whom you have talked. We heard some names from the Pakistani said who really wanted to talk to you, including a commander from Qandahar and some members of a moderate group. Thank you.

[Najibullah] Liz Doucet is from Britain, her English is very clear. One can understand your English. Regarding your first question, I would like to say that I answered that in detail in answer to the AFP correspondent's question. As far as the trilateral conference of the Soviet Union, Iran, and Pakistan goes, we have submitted the principle of talks and understanding in internal and external spheres as one of the fundamental parts of our policy of national reconciliation and every international or regional gathering within bilateral and multilateral framework, within the framework of the United Nations Organization, the Nonaligned Movement and others, that help toward the solution of the question of Afghanistan and the maintenance of peace for the people of Afghanistan and toward the elimination of the persecutions and pains of the people of Afghanistan, is acceptable to us. We support it and put forward the necessary readiness by the Afghan side to take part in such a conference by presenting flexible and sound arguments and constructive proposals.

Concerning your third question, I believe Liz Doucet went to Pakistan some time ago and talked with many opposition group leaders. She gathered hints from there, or obtained information, that probably some outstanding commanders and even the leaders of various groups in Pakistan have showed an inclination for talks or have held talks. If Liz Doucet's sources are true, let

her rely on them. As far as we are concerned, we told you beforehand that we left the door open for talks and understanding with everyone. Talks and negotiations are going on. However, as time dictates, the specific draft or elements of these matters is still in the future. We cannot mention names to you, but your information is correct. I know, tell Liz Doucet.

[Shafi'i] Bareq Shafi'i, representing the PAYAM daily, organ of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA]: You have given ample explanations to my questions, however, if there are still fresh and new matters, I would like to hear if there are any further explanations about the peace-loving policy of the PDPA and the Afghan Government which enjoy the broad support of the people?

[Najibullah] Thank you. I think I have answered this question already. However, once again I would like to emphasize that the high aim of the policy of the Afghanistan and the PDPA is to restore peace and security in war weary and persecuted Afghanistan. We stated long before—I see a number of correspondents whose faces are familiar—before the withdrawal of the limited USSR military contingents, I had told them categorically and confidently that the choice of a military solution does not achieve a result and cannot bring about anything but the futile bloodshed of innocent people. At that time, maybe because of the extensive propaganda and psychological warfare which was unleashed by specific international circles, the esteemed correspondents thought that it was just a claim. However, 6 months have passed and I believe that Pakistan, the United States, the Saudis, and others must learn the lesson from these 6 months, that is, they should have considered the realities of developments and events and should not have spent another summer in shedding more further bloodshed by mass annihilation weapons. They should not have continued military pressure on the Republic of Afghanistan. As far as a mechanism for the realization of a just and fair peace in Afghanistan is concerned, I put forward such a mechanism in detail before.

[Moderator] Esteemed Najibullah, I would like to put to you the question by the Italian journalist [name indistinct]. He wants to know about the policy of national reconciliation. He says that in his opinion the policy of national reconciliation [words indistinct] and wants to know whether you are hopeful in this regard. Will this policy bring Afghanistan to a situation similar to the one in Burma? What sort of compromise has been achieved? Does religion influence the government as before and does the armed opposition rule almost 50 percent of the country? I would like to ask my own question, too. I do not believe we have heard the answer to Liz Doucet's first question. Her question [passage indistinct] means that the state wants to concede in some way. Would some of the leaders step down?

[Najibullah] Fortunately, Liz Doucet this time was followed by this reporter and I understood your English, too. In connection with the first part of your question, I would like to say that it is good the journalist says himself that the policy of national reconciliation is [word indistinct]. Undoubtedly, however, it advances slowly. The most important thing is that it is advancing. As far as it depends on the factors and reasons as a whole of this policy, I tell you categorically that compared with the last 10 years, the so-called mujahidin, the so-called freedom-seekers, the so-called international guardians of freedom and democracy in the country, within a short period of 5 months, as a result of the sound plans and proposals and contents of this policy, are being condemned as international terrorists. Because we have achieved such a result with such a speed, I believe this policy is not advancing that slowly. However, this policy could very soon be expanded in its broad dimensions in practice and in the political-social life of our country, providing that interference and aggression from abroad ceases and the Geneva accords are been implemented in practice. I think that if there is some check in some direction, then the responsibility rests on the shoulders of those who on the surface state that they are supporting the peaceful resolution of the Afghan question, but who in reality are still planning to impose their doctrine of military pressure on Afghanistan and who oppose the political resolution of the question of Afghanistan. This was in connection with your first question, and there are many fresh points in this mechanism—for example, specifying the date of the cease-fire for 6 months, the leadership council should write a constitution and hold general elections. I think the best democratic way to settle the Afghan question, or to strengthen the process of democracy and the freedom where completely political pluralism and participation by all political forces is observed, has been put forward. I think this is the choice of all the people of Afghanistan and therefore this policy enjoys support. International circles also have come around to confirming this policy and are opting for a peaceful resolution of this question. This is being transformed into a paramount inclination.

However, I am aware of the depth of the plan. It is, therefore, that this is the third question which is being repeated in this meeting. What about Najibullah's stepping down? I tell you once again that if the maintenance of peace and the guarantee of restoring peace to the people of Afghanistan comes about, we, let alone our leadership position, are prepared to sacrifice our lives. However, if it means that the whole existing reality of the present regime, that being the political sovereignty, the armed forces, its social organizations, and the system which has come about, are as a whole negated, this does not help in solving the Afghan question because the fundamental [word indistinct] of the solution of the Afghan conflict is the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the present regime, and the existing system. Their negation does not put an end to war, but it would intensify it. If, in the crux of this matter and this plan the point is glossed over that with the elimination of Najibullah a second Lebanon will come about here, then we will not allow this. Therefore, we have stated that personalities are not our concern; individuals are of no

concern; position and power are of no concern. It is the general well-being which is of concern, the welfare of the people, those in whose name everyone cries, from the United States to others, who want rights and freedom for the people of Afghanistan. The people of Afghanistan want peace today. We should observe this first. After that, on the second step, the question of position and power should come into play. You see, however, that the principle of power is brought into discussion, first of all. This in itself contradicts so-called humanitarian plans, humanism, democracy, and freedom. I think it is better to implement the essence of our policy in action, and not self-interests and inclinations. If democracy is in our interests, we raise a hand for democracy and if in place, military pressure in Afghanistan was planned, our hands are raised for that. If terrorism is planned against us, our hands are raised against it. Such policies and statements of contradictions reduce the credibility and prestige of the civilized and great countries of the world, in particular the countries which from the viewpoint of economy and development have been prejudiced against the expectations of the Third World, the developing world, the Nonaligned Movement—among them Afghanistan and all other countries who have such regional problems [passage indistinct].

The elimination of problems cannot solve the problem. It is the coming together of all the forces which could bring about the solution of the problem. This is the way to solve a problem. Let me tell you that Pakistan has instructed all their diplomats that you can no longer defend the unsound stand of Pakistan [as heard]. The current thesis is that the Americans believe that in bringing into discussion the interim government membership you bring to the fore only one thesis and that is that Najibullah should be excluded. In this case, a political solution is possible, a coalition is also possible, and the problems could be solved through political means.

If it is true that they really want the political solution of the question of Afghanistan and they claim that 85 percent, as you say, is under the influence of these alien forces, that means 16 percent [as heard] is with us, then why are they afraid of elections? Why are they afraid of general elections, the soundest system of democracy? If someone has 85 percent of power with oneself, then what is the necessity of using rifles, advanced Sakar-20 and Sakar-30 missiles with what specifications? Until yesterday the United States was raising a hue and cry—the pretext being that the refugees cannot return, while all obstacles in the way of the return of the refugees and the brazen violation of one of the credible documents of the Geneva accords, were created by them. They did not let the refugees return. What was the pretext? Minefields?

When they, themselves, their ringleaders, and even a number of their journalists, for whom legal doors are open and who can legally come here, come inside Afghanistan with their bands, then there are no minefields. In the final analysis, life and the terrorist characteristics leave these civilized countries, and the United States alone is in the position to supply missiles which scatter scores of mines every moment and thus, they, create minefields among the innocent people, among the civilized and law-abiding people inside the cities. This matter will be discussed by the Nonaligned Movement. Those who claim that they want the maps of minefields for the sake of human rights to clean out the mines and those who come here in the name of clearing mines, or come to carry out a series of illegal activities under this pretext themselves, in daylight, fire missiles from the inside. Cassettes of dozens and hundreds of mines are scattered out and have been made in special forms and attractive wrappings, so that every innocent person pick them up because of their attractiveness, and an explosion takes place.

This is not an isolated incident, but tens of such painful incidents, to which you are witnesses, take place. In this way the realities are something else. Facts and events indicate something else and life proves some thing else. If the civilized and cultured forces possess sound political minds, then they should accept these realities. Other wise arbitrary judgments will eventually face these forces with ludicrous failure. You think about the soundness of this question. I have spoken in detail in this regard, because I would like to tell you the many sides of the matter. Millions of dollars are being spent here, billions are being spent. All fatal modern means have been brought to and modeled in Afghanistan. The whole result of all these boils down to one idea: If we accept terrorism, if we accept mass killings, and if we trample upon the principles of democracy and freedom, if we want to isolate ourselves and to be questioned on an international level, should Najibullah be there or not there. Is there any logic in this?

If we think about the internationally accepted principles, if we accept noninterference in the internal affairs of nations and in granting free choice to the people to choose their own way of life, then it is heard from every tongue that so and so should be in power in Afghanistan and so and so should not. Is this not interference in the internal affairs of countries? If everyone believes that a certain president is not to their taste and therefore should not be there; that a certain leader should not be in some country; if every administration and everyone, due to personal inclination, tramples over the right of freedom and independence of the people and puts forward the candidates of their choice and if such governments are changed once and twice daily at the deliberation of every adminstration, what order will come into being in international relations? Are we for the preservation of international order or for its breakdown?

Should we safeguard or destroy this international order? The civilized forces, the largest countries, and the countries who allegedly regard themselves as competent and deserving forces to protect international order, how can they stand in such a (?position) and how can they answer? Therefore, they said they are going to test us once again on the battlefront, that both the armed opposition forces and the present regime should prove

themselves. We are not the ones to be tested: The Afghan nation, the brave people of Afghanistan, have proven during the history of Afghanistan; they showed courage, bravery, pride, love for freedom, and independence against aggression and interference. It is the other countries, their policies, and their administrations who are taking sides against us, not as guarantors, however.

Those who put these lethal weapons at the disposal of the enemies of Afghanistan and who encourage state terrorism are to be tested, not us. Our stand is clear: We will give our lives, we will give up our positions because we want peace for our people. The peace in Afghanistan and regional peace will assist the international peace. One of the hottest regional spots of tension is Afghanistan. Everyone can prove their honesty in connection to the restoration of peace. If major policies are at issue, these major policies cannot be without links to this regional circle. This includes not only the issue of Afghanistan but the issue of Angola, Nicaragua, and Kampuchea: until these issues are solved in a complex manner, the major policies cannot be realized in practice. We are not the ones to be tested; the others are undergoing tests to prove whether or not their so-called major global policies are really (?worthy) in practice.

What was relevant to the Soviet Union is that this test has been (?carried out) in practice [words indistinct]. In proving its international goodwill and international worthy determination, they left Afghanistan. Now it is the U.S. turn to take steps, otherwise a major question can be raised that regional tensions cannot be removed; the major policies cannot be realized; economic and political discrimination are there; there is terrorism there are international and state terrorism [words indistinct].

[Unidentified correspondent] My question is partially linked with ideological aspect and not the military aspect. In the past 2 years since you have been in charge of the presidency reliance has been made on religion the religion of Islam. It has been approved in Kabul. My question is that when I listen to Radio Kabul in Germany, there are talks about genuine Islam. Is this reliance on Islam a tactical aspect of your policy, to bring those enemies and members of the opposition who are tired of war to reconcile with their brethren, though they cannot do this from a religious viewpoint [as heard]? [Words indistinct] is for the sake of providing an opportunity to those to think and say that now Kabul talks all about Islam and ask if it is possible to reconcile with our Muslim brethren? Or, has there really come into being a kind of change or ideological development in the sense that past socialism and communism or Marxism or the PDPA's theory of materialism have been altered since you came to power?

[Najibullah] We live in the Afghan society. The people of Afghanistan are Muslims. [Words indistinct] until yesterday, I tell you sincerely, all parties involved in this question are Muslims. However, after the withdrawal of the limited contingents of the Soviet Union, in particular, the voice of Wahhabism has come up; it stood against the true Islam in Afghanistan. This new way endangered the Islam of the people of Afghanistan. In accordance with the articles of the Constitution of the Republic of Afghanistan, the sacred Islamic religion of Islam is the religion of the people of Afghanistan and all laws here are in accord with the shari'a of Islam. The Constitution has been approved by the representatives of the Afghan people. I stated when I was sworn in, which is enshrined in the Constitution. [sentence as heard] I have promised before the Grand Assembly of Afghanistan that I will use all my efforts to guarantee these norms, although the guardian and protector is Almighty God. The main issue we emphasize today is that Wahhabism gives the duty to the sacred religion of Islam; it is therefore our duty to engage in the observation of the law of Islam and the law of God, despite the fact the Almighty has stated: We have sent you the Koran and we will protect it.

Regardless of who tries to prevent this in whatever form, regardless of which society tries to prevent this, the Afghan people will accomplish their duty before our own people and before our God. It is, therefore, that I tell you the true mujahidin are now the State of the Republic of Afghanistan and the PDPA against these Wahhabis who want to trample our religion underfoot. We carry this banner with honor and we are steadfastly advancing. Another principle is that we, the PDPA [words indistinct], to whom the interests of their homeland and people are far higher, higher than every sort of interest: group, factional, tribal, ethnical, racial, political and party interests, whatever they may be. To us the acceptance of an ideology is based on its creative implementation, that is the method of its implementation in the situation in Afghanistan.

It is therefore that ideologies are constantly in alteration and evolution, because life and conditions in these societies are in evolution. Everyone should take these conditions and situations into consideration. Every ideology and every custom which is not applicable in the peculiar conditions of our society, is not acceptable to us and is condemned. This is the PDPA stand, which it held yesterday, holds today, and will hold tomorrow. When we say that we are carrying forward the process of changes and democratization in the life of the society, the best democratization is attention to, respect for, and the observation of all customs, characteristics, peculiarities, and religious principles, faith and belief of the people. No change, no progress and development and no fundamental change without consideration of the people and their interests and beliefs cannot be implemented into action. These are the factors about which we take a healthy, logical, and realistic stand.

[Correspondent] I am [name indistinct]. Our colleagues and friends allocated their attention primarily to the questions of the destiny of war and a political solution. I believe one other important area remains before the president, that is the area of economy. I do not know how much it is possible to explain to us how the republican government assesses the reconstruction of the

collapsed state of economy of the country in the present conditions and which countries and organizations are granting effective assistance to the Afghans in this area.

[Najibullah] There are broad plans in this area to embark on the revival of the disordered economy of Afghanistan and to build this country from the beginning. However, this question can be raised again and this has connected more to the issue that war and armed clashes should be ended in Afghanistan as early as possible and an atmosphere of work and peaceful life must prevail in the country. At present, a number of countries, both in bilateral and multilateral relations, are cooperating for the economic revival of Afghanistan. A large number of other countries have promised their economic assistance via the UN economic and humanitarian assistance plan. A number of countries such as the Soviet Union, India, and also various UN organizations, are extending noticeable assistance to Afghanistan.

As far as the development of the domestic economy is concerned you may be aware that on the eve of the anniversary of the Geneva accords we spoke about an (?action) program and we talked about the characteristics of economic development in Afghanistan [word indistinct]. We talked about all (?directions) that in a word [we can say] the economy of Afghanistan would not be a prejudicial and closed economy but it will be an open and democratized economy in consideration of strengthening private investment and providing all possibilities for the progress of this sector as well as providing feasible conditions for foreign investments. We are ready to accept whatever will assist the task of our economic development and not ignore our national interests.

Further on 22 Aug News Briefing

LD2408191289 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] At a news conference held yesterday at Delkosha Palace of the Presidential Office, attended by domestic and foreign journalists, esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, shed light on the military-political situation of the country and the recent development in the Republic of Afghanistan. [passage indistinct]

At this news conference esteemed Najibullah spoke about the current situation of the country, increasing interference and violations by the militarists of Pakistan, Saudi Wahhabis, and the terrorists supported by them as well as the policy of state terrorism by Pakistan and United States. He explained the realization of the policy of national reconciliation for the restoration of peace and national accord, as well as the initiatives and the new peaceful proposals by the Republic of Afghanistan for achieving peace and ending bloodshed in the country.

In his concluding speech esteemed Najibullah spoke about two French citizens who illegally entered our country last week. During an armed confrontation with our armed forces, which took place in Herat Province, one was killed and another one was captured by the armed forces. Najibullah said:

[Begin Najibullah recording] I (?would like) to state two points in conclusion: First, the gates of Afghanistan and as hospitable people our hearts are always open before you. At any time and in any conditions, you can stay in Afghanistan as our dear and respected guests. As far as I am concerned we will provide opportunities and prepare the ground so that you can accomplish your professional duties in a good and suitable manner as far as the opportunities allow. Therefore, the second point I want to make is connected to this issue that when our hearts are open and the gates of Afghanistan are also open, and there is no discrimination for entry, [why do] some of the esteemed journalists want to enter the room via the windows? While the doors are open there is no need for windows. They are confronted with various situations and events. Regrettably, I should inform you that last week two French people, accompanied by an armed band, wanted to reach Herat and go to Captain Esma'il's band. For what aims and objectives? Naturally, when one comes with a band one must have an aim and an objective. However, during an armed clash with our armed forces and security forces, which naturally brought about losses on both sides, we have captured one of the French journalists. He was moved to Kabul on Saturday. Of course, we have taken care of him and treated him. His medical condition is good; an investigation is underway. However, due to the security situation and war conditions, as I was informed, the other journalist was killed as a result of armed clash. We tried to obtain his body, but, regrettably, the opposition forces (?made an arrangement) or have done something.

We expect you... [changes thought] While you are legally allowed to come [into Afghanistan] and while you are allowed to travel wherever you want to go, including areas under the influence and control of others, you can go there to their side and conduct your professional duties; we can make arrangements because we have links with them. The level of talks has reached the stage where we can prepare the ground for you to go there, but we ask everyone to refrain from entering the country illegally. The occurrence of such a situation is unexpected and unpleasant. We respect your life and your existence and we hold ourselves responsible.

One last issue: To those who remain here for a while, I wish you a good time and safety from the first of these blind terrorist missiles. Those of you who want to travel I wish you, from the bottom of my heart, a safe journey. I hope to see you again in Afghanistan. Thank you. [applause] [end recording]

Najibullah Comments on NAM, Geneva Accords

LD0409085689 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sep 3, BAKHTAR—I want to deliver a constructive proposal on the setting up of a special committee consisting of authorised members of the

Non-Aligned Movement "NAM". The committee, based on the Geneva Accords and the resolution of 43rd sessions of the UN General Assembly, should be duty-bound to devote its efforts for seeking a comprehensive solution to the issues related to Afghanistan.

Said Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan on September 2 in an interview with a BAKHTAR reporter at Kabul international airport before his departure to Belgrade to participate in the 9th summit conference of the heads of states or governments of the member countries of the Non-aligned Movement "NAM" due to be held from 4-7 of September in the capital of Yugoslavia.

My participation in the work of the NAM 9th summit conference in itself is the manifestation of the fact that the RA gave much value to the principles of NAM as well as its valuable role in international relations, prove that, we try honestly that by utilizing all possibilities including the tribune of the NAM to put an end, as soon as possible, to war, fratricide and state terrorism impose on our people by us and Pakistan, said the Afghan leader.

The 9th conference of the NAM is taking place in a time in which tremendous changes have taken place in the shape and nature of international relations. The relations change from arms confrontation towards cooperation and detent.

The NAM from the very beginning till now, plays an important role to prevent the division of world to political-military blocks and as a stable and parallel factor in international relations serves in the interest of coexistence among all countries of the world regardless of their socio-economic and political systems, stressed President Najibullah.

In spite of partial improvement in relations between the two super powers, NAM as in the past, has protected its non-aligned policy. The conference will all-sidedly assess international relations and will adopt important decisions on solving issues with which NAM member countries and all mankind are faced with. In connection with Afghanistan, I want to mention that, my expectation from the participants of the conference is that to assess the situation inside and around Afghanistan realistically and play its constructive role in restoration of peace in Afghanistan, the Afghan leader stressed.

Such a role, Najibullah went on to say, can help to the efforts of international community, first of all, UN efforts for ending war and fratricide in Afghanistan.

The Afghanistan delegation will actively take part in the work of conference and will try hard that the 9th NAM conference should devote its efforts for safeguarding of peace, and security, international justice and consolidation of cooperation and to achieve great successes in the sphere, the Afghan leader concluded.

Najibullah To Propose New Committee on Accords

LD0509065789 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 4, BAKHTAR—A BAKHTAR commentator writes:

The 9th summit conference of the heads of states or governments of member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) opened in Belgrade today. It is the second time after the elapsing of 28 years, Yugoslavia hosts the NAM summit conference. It proves the valuable role played by that country for the consolidation of the NAM position and implementation of the principles and goals of the movement.

During the past 3 decades, the movement with a limited number of newly independent countries has been changed into an effective and important factor in international relations. The movement based on its aims and goals and principles of non-participation in super powers politico-military pacts, developed rapidly.

The NAM with its 101 members plays an important role in the ensurance of peace and security and expansion of international cooperation. The ethical role of the NAM directed to the strengthening of detente and solution of regional and international conflicts, is quite clear.

Now that the climate of international relations as a result of the partial improvement of relations between two super powers, is becoming favourable, the NAM role has preserved its importance and credence on one hand and its honesty and righteousness on the other.

The Republic of Afghanistan [RA], which is one of the founders of this movement long before the creation of the movement, has applied philosophy and thoughts of the non-alignment as a powerful factor of its foreign policy and has maintained friendly relations with all world countries regardless of their socio-economic and political systems.

On one hand the participation of the high-ranking Afghan delegation headed by President Najibullah in the ninth NAM summit conference proves that Afghanistan pays high value to the movement principles and its activities in international arena.

On the other, participation of the RA delegation in the gathering, represents the aspiration of the Afghan leadership that to use all national and international possibilities as well as the tribune of the NAM for finding out ways for the cessation of the destructive war and bloodshed in the country.

Najibullah, through the tribune of the leaders of the movement, will put forward new constructive proposals aimed at peacefully solving the Afghan issue. President Najibullah will also submit a new plan for the creation of a special committee consisting of some influential members of the NAM to endeavour for the practical realisation of the Geneva accords and resolution number 20 of

the 43 session of the UN General Assembly on Afghanistan. It will be proposed that a special session of the foreign ministers of the coordinating bureau of the NAM be held prior to convening of the sessions of the UN General Assembly on issues related to Afghanistan in order to assess report on the activities of the special committee and to adopt a unitary stand of the NAM in the said General Assembly in the sphere.

Surely, the Afghan delegation as before participates in a constructive spirit of cooperation in the sessions and will play an active role in the efforts aimed at the peaceful solution of all matters of interest to the movement.

Najibullah Sends Message to Khowst Residents

LD0409090489 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 4 Aug 89

[Text] Kabul, Sep 3, BAKHTAR—"Allow me first of all to express my best wishes and gratitude to you the valiant defenders of the Khowst Grand District and inhabitants of that region from your country, lives and strongholds against the aggressors", says felicitatory message of Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan and supreme commander of the country's armed force addressed to the brave defenders and residents of the Khowst Grand District, Paktia Province, south of the country on Sept 2, 1989.

These days the war-mongers are attempting that through the exerting of military pressure, planting of bombs, launching of rocket attacks and blocking of high-ways launch hue and cry aimed at jeopardising the participation of the high-ranking delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA) in the 9th summit conference of the heads of states or governments of the Nonaligned Movement "NAM" member countries to be held in Belgrade, the message says.

The conference will be held under new and different conditions than those held in the past. The delegation of the RA will participate in the work of the conference at a time when the state of the RA has practically proved its viability during the past 6 and a half months to the world at large and the armed forces of the RA are able to defend territorial integrity and independence of the country in the future as well. The high-ranking Afghan delegation headed by me will raise the peaceful voice of our compatriots in Khowst and other cities of Afghanistan in the conference, and convey it to the world people, the message adds.

Defenders, soldiers and officers of the contingents and detachments are well aware of the fact that the extremists war-mongers, Wahhabi mercenaries and Pakistani militarists intend to ruin our ancestral home.

I am sure that you as your forefathers will defend your country. You in fulfilling this grave task are not alone. The armed forces of the RA who bravely defend their strongholds are on your side, the message goes on.

Your resistance for the defence of your country during the past 10 year has been transformed into a myth [as received]. During this period despite all difficulties such as closure of high-ways and economic pressure by Pakistan, you were able to manifest your heroism and defend your honour against the enemy, the message adds.

It is a source of pride that soldiers and officers of the armed forces in the Khowst Grand District with your all-sided cooperation defend their strongholds, your heroism will become an example among the future generations. They will never forget sacrifices, heroism, patriotism and bravery of tribes, nationalities, chieftains and defenders of the Khowst Grand District, the message stresses.

Mujahidin Launch Attacks in Area North of Khowst

BK0509025289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin launched attacks on Shindand Air Base and the district headquarters of Farah Province, badly damaging the base and capturing the market area of the district. In another attack on a military post, about 20 km from (Ilakash), mujahidin caused heavy damage to the Kabul regime forces. To tighten the siege of Khowst, mujahidin have intensified attacks on Jaji Meydan and (Khark) in the north of Khowst.

Mujahidin Intensify Fighting Before Winter

BK0509143489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1406 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Islamabad, Sep 5 (AFP)—Afghan mujahidin have launched several pre-winter attacks targetting bases along the country's borders with Pakistan and Iran and strategic runways and airfields, resistance and Western diplomats said here Tuesday.

Western diplomats said mujahidin gunners had destroyed at least five helicopters in western Herat since last week, and caused substantial damage to vital installations in stepped up rocket barrages.

The increased fighting comes before the onset of winter in late October which traditionally limits ground operations.

Various sources said the mujahidin had renewed attacks on garrisons and towns they have been besieging since last year, following several months of relative inactivity.

On Monday the guerrillas launched a coordinated attack on the country's biggest air base at Shindand, south of Herat. One report said the base had been badly damaged, while other reports indicated that the airport building had suffered heavy damage but that the base was still operational.

Two helicopters were destroyed and several vehicles set on fire during the attack, sources said.

The attack followed reports that the Afghan government had been using the base as a dump for arms and ammunition arriving directly from the Soviet Union.

The diplomats confirmed that a large army convoy of over 950 vehicles, which left Shindand last week for Qandahar, some 400 kilometres (250 miles) to the southeast, was under increasing mujahidin pressure. The convoy, which is carrying badly needed supplies of fuel and ammunition for the besieged Qandahar airport garrison, was now bogged down near Dilaram, halfway to Qandahar, after losing more than 80 tanks and military trucks to mines and rockets, they said.

Monday's attack on Shindand was part of a resistance strategy to badly crater the airfield so as to deny air cover to the convoy, the diplomats said.

In southern Zabol Province the mujahidin launched another operation Saturday and captured the strategic Tabis Kher District, only seven kilometres (four miles) south of the provincial capital Qalat, diplomats said. The rebels killed 35 government soldiers while 30 defected to their side, diplomats said.

The fall of Tabis Kher, located in the hills across the Tarnak River, could increase the pressure on troops in the nearby Bala Hissar garrison defending Qalat, observers said.

Western diplomats said the mujahidin also increased the pressure on troops defending Tarin Khowt in central Oruzgan Province capturing several outposts last week.

Heavy fighting was also reported in eastern Paktia Province where government troops are holding the strategic Khowst garrison on the border with Pakistan.

The guerrillas have captured Dargai and nearby Malang towns while heavy fighting was reported in Tani, 14 kilometres (seven miles) southwest of Khowst, diplomats said. The rebels captured the important town of Nadir Shah Kot, 22 kilometres (14 miles) west of Khowst, in July, they said. Diplomats said the guerrillas were now within 10 kilometres (six miles) of the town and were concentrating on the airport, while government troops continued Tuesday a heavy bombing and missile attack on rebel positions. The garrison has been cut off for over a year and depends on being resupplied with ammunition by air from Kabul.

In Kabul itself diplomats said an exodus of residents was continuing with some 250,000 people leaving the capital in the last six months mainly to northern Mazar-e Sharif. They said the exodus was due partly to fears of increased military activity and continued mujahidin rocket attacks.

Islamabad Radio Details Mujahidin Operations

BK0509160389 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Reports say that the mujahidin in Afghanistan have captured a strategic mountainous region northeast of Qandhar airport and shot down a jet aircraft near Mazar-e Sharif.

Another report says that the mujahidin destroyed two heavy artillery pieces by attacking the Kabul regime's artillery on Kabul-Jalalabad highway. Large numbers of Kabul soldiers were killed in the operation.

Another report says that 40 soldiers of the Kabul regime killed 3 military officers and fled from Khowst barrack and joined the mujahidin. Reports say that 94 soldiers of the barrack have so far joined the mujahidin, and forces at Baraki and (Musa Khan) regions who [words indistinct] are fighting against the Kabul regime soldiers.

Yet another report says that the mujahidin have captured security posts at [name indistinct] and Towraghondi from where the Kabul forces used to shell mujahidin positions.

Khalis Ignores Moscow Warning on Airport Attack

BK0509165289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1641 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Sept 5 (AFP)—An important Afghan mujahidin commander Tuesday snubbed a warning from Moscow against further rebel rocket attacks on Kabul airport.

'Abdul Haq, whose guerrillas are active in Kabul Province, also asked if the "continued active Soviet involvement in Afghanistan is an example of (Soviet leader Mikhail) Gorbachev's glasnost."

"We were not intimidated when the Soviet Union had over 100,000 well-equipped troops" in Afghanistan, he said in a statement issued here, adding: "Why should we be concerned about their threats now?"

"Are the Soviets threatening to reinvade Afghanistan? If so, we will simply kick them out again," said Mr. Haq, who is affiliated to the Hezb-e Eslami faction led by Yunis Khalis.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday that Moscow "cannot remain indifferent" to the latest attacks by the U.S.-backed Afghan resistance against Kabul airport.

The spokesman said the attacks endangered "the life and safety of Soviet citizens as there are civil aviation links" between Moscow and Kabul. Ten workers were killed and 22 injured when rebels fired a barrage of 30 rockets on Kabul airport Saturday, as Soviet-backed Afghan President Najibullah was leaving for Belgrade to attend the Ninth Non-aligned Movement Summit.

Mr. Haq said that airport was being used for military purposes as "dozens of cargo planes from the Soviet Union" were bringing weapons for the communist Kabul government to be used against Afghan people.

"The Soviets and the regime are using the airport as base for attacking my country. It is our right to retaliate and defend the Afghan people," the rebel commander said. "The Kabul airport is not the property of Soviet Union," he added.

Bangladesh

1 Student Shot Dead in Chittagong Violence

BK0509144189 Hong Kong AFP in English 1441 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 5 (AFP)—One student was shot dead and another injured in the southeastern port city of Chittagong Tuesday in continued student violence in Bangladesh with tension running high in several areas, police said.

Police said the dead student, an activist from the Bangladesh Chatra League (BCL), was in a tea stall in the Bekulia area when workers of the Islami Chatra Shibir (ICS) allegedly opened fire, killing him instantly and injuring a companion. Police could not immediately give a reason for the attack.

Three rival student groups, the BCL which is the student wing of Sheikh Hasina Wajed's opposition Awami League (AL), the rightwing Jamiyat-i Islami party's student wing, ICS, and the Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) of Begum Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party have had armed clashes in Dhaka and other cities in the past few months.

No precise reasons for the clashes were available but political observers said the fighting increased after links forged between the three major opposition parties during anti-government action in the last few years broke.

Tuesday's incident in Chittagong brought the toll in the last month to two students dead and 126 injured.

Students went on a strike in the southern coastal distict of Bagerhat Tuesday to protest an alleged assault on a teacher by a government driver. Local police said by telephone that the strike was peaceful, but the incident Monday had triggered clashes between students and police in which 16 students were arrested.

Lawyers, who said some colleagues were injured in the melee, threatened to boycott the courts on Tuesday, but police were unable to confirm whether the courts were operating.

In an unrelated incident in neighbouring Barisal District, a school strike called by the BCL demanding the release of two BCL leaders passed off peacefully Monday, local newspapers reported Tuesday.

In Dhaka, police on Monday arrested 16 students after two rival groups of students fought with sticks and rods to settle an old score. Police baton-charged the groups, who were also said to have set fire to a thrqe-wheeler auto-rickshaw.

The district office of the ICS was ransacked Sunday in Barisal, allegedly by rival BCL activists.

Dhaka University, hot-bed of student politics, remained tense although no fresh incidents were reported.

Factions Clash at University

BK0609085689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Excerpt] In Bangladesh, violence continued unabated in the Dhaka University campus for the 6th day yesterday. At least 12 persons were injured during the clashes between two factions of the student organization—Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal [Nationalist Students Party]. Reports say over 200 rounds of gunfire and a series of bomb blasts rocked the university campus last night. Police personnel continued to be posted in and around the campus. Traffic around Dhaka University is closed. [passage omitted]

Supreme Court Challenges Amendment's Legality

BK2908071789 Hong Kong AFP in English 0649 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 29 (AFP)—The Supreme Court here, in an unprecedented move Tuesday, challenged the Bangladeshi Government by questioning the legality of a controversial amendment to the Constitution.

The 9th amendment was signed into law by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad on July 11, one day after it was passed hurriedly by Parliament. The bill will go into force March, 1 1991, unless enforced earlier by an executive order.

It gives Parliament the disputed right to discharge power in cases of emergency and also limits the president to two five-year terms and incorporates a new clause for the simultaneous election of a vice president.

The two-man bench of the Supreme Court's High Court Division Tuesday gave the government's law secretary four weeks to explain why the amendment should not be declared illegal and null and void.

The unprecedented court ruling came after three days of arguments by a group of leading opposition lawyers over a petition filed by an advocate challenging the amendment. They argued that the bill's clause on "contingency," in which Parliament must discharge power a day after an emergency situation arises, was "contrary to the Constitution itself and should be declared unconstitutional and illegal."

The lawyers charged that the clause "had the scope of creating despair and the whole country and the nation

would be plunged into total anarchy if the amendment was not declared null and void" by the court. Advocate Abdul Barek said the amendment had "indirectly intended to change the basic structure and framework of the Contitution."

Bangladesh's Supreme Court is separated into the High Court Division and the Appelate Division. A verdict passed down by the High Court Division can be reviewed by the Appelate Division.

The 300-member Parliament dominated by General Ershad's ruling Jatiya Party, held a brief debate on July 10 before unanimously passing the amendment with 172 votes in favour and none against, earlier reports said.

Ministers and ruling party leaders had hailed the amendment as an "epoch-making" event which signified the possible end to continuous rule by an individual. They also said that the amendment empowered Parliament to summon itself automatically to elect a president and vice president if either office fell vacant because of death or any other reason.

But critics dismissed the bill, saying that it should have been meticulously studied and debated instead of being rushed through Parliament.

The Supreme Court Bar Association, a national body of senior lawyers, had said in July that the amendment "was part of a deep-rooted conspiracy to disrupt the national unity forged in the process of peoples struggle for establishing democracy and the rule of law." The body, dominated mostly by anti-government lawyers, also argued that the present Parliament had "no jurisdiction to approve the legislation since its members were elected without the attendance of voters." The Parliament in power was elected during the March 1988 general polls which were boycotted by major opposition parties.

Vice President Terms Court Verdict 'Binding'

BK0309164889 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] The vice president, Mr Moudud Ahmed, has said the verdict given by the Supreme Court proves that Bangladesh has a democratic government and the Constitution, and its judiciary is functioning independently under the Constitution. Talking to newsmen in Dhaka today, he said the order passed by the appellate division of the Supreme Court partly on the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution is binding on all and it is the normal function of the Supreme Court to interpret constitutional amendments.

The appellate division of the Supreme Court yesterday declared ultravires and invalid the constitutional amendment setting up one permanent bench of the high court in Dhaka and six others outside the capital. The four-member appellate division in a majority judgment declared the amendment to Article 100, along with the constitutional amendment to Article 107, to be ultravires of the Constitution.

The vice president said judiciary is a part of the state organs and the functions of the judiciary, the executive, and legislature are complementary to each other and not comparative. Mr Moudud Ahmed said the six permanent high court benches set up outside under the amendment may continue as courts in session of the high court division.

Chief of Islamic Conference Organization Arrives

BK2808164889 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Conference, Dr Hamid al-Gabid, arrived in Dhaka today for a 6-day visit to Bangladesh. Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud received him at the airport. [passage omitted]

Calls on President Ershad

BK3008143989 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] The visiting secretary general of the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization], Dr Hamid al-Gabid, called on President Ershad at his secretariat on Wednesday [30 August]. During the meeting, the president and the ICO secretary [general] discussed relations between Bangladesh and the ICO, and the world political situation, especially the Islamic ummah.

Holds Official Talks With Mahmud

BK3108021089 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Official talks between the visiting Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] secretary general, Dr Hamid al-Gabid, and Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud were held in Dhaka today on wide-ranging issues of common concern. The ways and means to further strengthen and consolidate the Islamic solidarity also came up for discussion during the 2-hour-long meeting. The plight of ethnic Turks in Bulgaria and their recent exodus to neighboring Turkey figured in the discussion. Bangladesh renewed its proposal for setting up an Islamic center for medical training and research in the country at the meeting.

The foreign minister, Mr Mahmud, also briefed the secretary general on the regional developments and measures for flood control as well as international cooperation in this regard.

Later, the ICO secretary general, Dr Gabid, called on President Ershad at his secretariat. They discussed relations between Bangladesh and the ICO, including global political situation, especially those concerning the Islamic world. The ICO secretary general lauded various

development projects undertaken by the government to improve the condition of the people.

President Ershad referred to the making of Islam as the state religion of Bangladesh and said it was done to honor the deep religious feelings of the people of Bangladesh.

Dr Hamid al-Gabid also visited the Islamic Center for Technical and Vocational Training and Research at Kazipur today. He met the heads of departments and faculty members and exchanged views with them. Assistant secretary general of the ICO, (Muhammad Mohsin), was also present on the occasion.

Meets With Prime Minister

BK0109131989 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed has said Bangladesh will continue its efforts for the solidarity of the Islamic ummah [community]. The prime minister was talking to the visiting Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] secretary general, Dr Hamid al-Gabid, who called on him in Dhaka Thursday [31 August]. Kazi Zafar reiterated Bangladesh's commitment to the principle of the ICO and reaffirmed its total support to the cause of the Palestinian people. He also mentioned the declaration of Islam as the state religion and establishment of zakat [Islamic tax] fund by the government.

The ICO secretary general lauded the role of Bangladesh in different organs of the ICO and for the unity of the Muslim ummah.

Minister Leaves for Istanbul ICO Energy Meeting

BK0209143589 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Ziauddin Ahmed left Dhaka Saturday [2 September] for Istanbul to attend the first session of the ministerial meeting on energy of ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] member states beginning Sunday. He is leading a five-member delegation. The meeting is expected to assess the conventional and nonconventional energy situation in member countries. It will also try to strengthen cooperation in the exploitation and exploration of energy resources among the ICO member states.

India

Sikh Separatists Step Up 'Terror' Campaign

'New Wave of Violence' Expected

BK0209115689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1146 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Amritsar, India, Sept 2 (AFP)—Sikh separatists have stepped up a reign of terror by warning opponents to face death after striking fear through a strident poster campaign in the rural heartland of Punjab.

The shadowy Panthic Committee, which guides the separatist drive, said in a statement here Friday that "anybody who dares oppose the idea of Khalistan would meet the fate of Sant Harchand Singh Longowal."

Mr Longowal, a moderate Sikh politician, was assassinated in 1985 days after he signed a now-defunct peace accord with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi aimed at giving greater autonomy to the Sikhs of northern Punjab State.

Khalistan, which means Land of the Pure, is the name the separatists have given their longed-for homeland.

Friday's statement, which unveiled plans to set up a clandestine radio station to propogate the Khalistan cause, prompted fears in this Punjab holy city that the separatists were preparing to unleash a new wave of violence.

The statement by the five-member Panthic Committee followed intelligence reports in August that Khalistan activists were planning to carve out a "liberated" area around Amritsar for their "free operation."

Official sources said about 200 Sikh separatists trained in the use of arms and explosives had infiltrated Punjab in recent weeks from neighbouring Pakistan to achieve this aim. India accuses Pakistan of backing the Sikh separatist campaign, a charge Islamabad denies.

The sources held these militants responsible for stepped up attacks on police posts and para-military convoys and "alarming acts of extortion" that were accompanied by a poster campaign that has struck fear in rural Punjab.

Posters warning civilians to "boycott" security forces have appeared in the villages. They order villagers to grow long crops such as cane and maize along roads, apparently to make it easier for laying ambushes, and not to pay taxes.

The separatists have also extorted hundreds of thousands of rupees (thousands of dollars) from people under threat of death to build memorials honouring comrades killed in "the war of Khalistan," the official sources said.

In another dimension to their campaign, they have begun kidnapping and forcing Sikh youths to enlist in the Khalistan movement to swell their ranks, the sources said. As a result most villagers are keeping their youngsters indoors.

Simultaneously, the separatists have increased their firepower by acquiring Chinese-made AK-74 assault rifles, a deadlier version of the AK-47, and general purpose medium machine-guns, the sources said.

Punjab Police Chief K.P.S. Gill said during a recent visit here that some 600 federal paramilitary troops and newly-trained police commandos had been moved into the Tarn Taran rural belt near Amritsar to beef up security and boost civilian morale.

In August, the security forces carruied out elaborate anti-separatist operations. Villages were cordoned off, civilians asked to move out and each house searched for the presence of separatists.

Six top separatists were killed during the operations, which police officers admit have had only marginal effect.

On August 21, the separatists made their presence felt by gunning down 10 members of a Sikh family in Padri Kalan and three security men in Deshmesh Nagar, both of which are villages located near Amritsar.

"Much more attention is needed to contain the activities of the terrorists," Mr Gill said. He said the anti-separatist operations would continue until "results" are achieved.

The administration claims to have fully sealed the notorious riverine terrain called Mand in the river beds of the Beas and the Sutlej after setting up 10 security pickets.

The area, considered an ideal hideout for the separatists because of the rugged terrain and wild vegetation like elephant grass, is being brought under five riverine police stations.

Security personnel in Mand are being provided with 20 patrol boats.

Violence linked to the Khalistan campaign has left more than 900 people dead so far this year. In 1988, more than 2,200 people were killed.

6 Killed, 10 Injured in Punjab

BK0309040489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] In Punjab, six persons were killed and ten injured in a terrorist attack in Patiala District last night.

According to an official spokesman, a gang of terrorists in two vans while moving on the G.T. Road opened indiscriminate fire on the people returning to their homes in between villages Kokra Majhra and Ambe Majhra. The two villages are on Sirhand Govindgarh portion of the road.

Security forces in the state and neighboring states have been alerted, and a massive search has been launched.

Five 'Hardcore' Terrorists Killed

BK0209091289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] In Punjab, five hardcore terrorists were killed in an encounter with security forces in Faridkot District. The director general of police, Mr K.P.S. Gill, told our Chandigarh correspondent that the encounter followed when Ferozepur District police chief along with a party of security forces raided a farm house in Kavarwala village. The raid was conducted on definite information that some terrorists were hiding there. It may be recalled that 17 passengers were gunned down and 14 seriously injured when terrorists attacked a train in Kavarwala railway station last Sunday [27 August].

Accident Prompts Student Rampage in New Delhi

BK0609082889 Hong Kong AFP in English 0812 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 6 (AFP)—Angry university students stormed two police stations, attacked vehicles and damaged a cinema here Wednesday after a bus ran over a first-year student on his way to college, police and witnesses said. Students damaged at least 10 Delhi Transport Corporation buses with rocks and fought street battles with the police in a busy eastern district, police said.

Scores of students armed with rods and sticks also attacked two police stations and a popular cinema in the Shahadara area, police said. They hurled rocks at police officers, but no casualties were immediately reported. The protestors also paralysed traffic by stopping hundreds of automobiles that come daily across the Yamuna River into the city, police added.

Witnesses said the students had triggered heavy traffic jams between the city and shahadara, which borders northern Uttar Pradesh State, and suburbs that house New Delhi's main industrial centre. The students accused the police of caning protesters and said they would continue to stage a sit-in on the roads until the police released four students arrested on charges of rioting.

Police denied caning the protesters. They said a large number of officers was being rushed to the site to bring the situation under control.

10 Killed, 7 Injured in Landmine Explosion

BK0109130989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, 10 persons were killed and 7 injured when the motor vehicle carrying them was blown up by a landmine planted by suspected Naxalites [Maoist guerrillas] in Jagtial division of Karimnagar District today. The injured have been admitted to nearby hospitals. The condition of the four of the injured is stated to be serious.

Former Army Chief Wanted Bofors Deal Canceled

BK0309051289 Hong Kong AFP in English 0343 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Sept 3 (AFP)—India's former chief of Army staff has disclosed that he had recommended canceling a 1.3 billion dollar contract with the Swedish arms firm Bofors in a bid to force the firm to reveal names of people who had received kickbacks from the deal.

General Krishnaswami Sundarji, former chief of Army staff, said in an interview with Saturday's [2 September] edition of the twice-monthly INDIA TODAY magazine, that in June 1987 he "urged all along that we should threaten to cancel the contract with Bofors to extract details of the pay-offs and recipients."

India had made it clear to the main contender for the arms deal in 1985, a year before the contract was signed, that it would not tolerate middlemen and had been assured by the firms that no middlemen would be used to secure the contract. Gen Sundarji, now retired, who was Army chief when the contract was signed, said he told the defence secretary in 1987 that, "I believed that if we threatened to cancel the contract, there was a 99.9 percent chance that Bofors would cough up the information about who received the money."

Although the "(?acquisition) process (for the field guns) would be delayed by 18 months to two years, for national honour we should go to the extreme of canceling the contract," Gen Sundarji was quoted by the influential INDIA TODAY as saying. The request for cancellation of the gun deal followed a report by Swedish radio which in April 1987 a cused Bofors of having secured the contract for the sale of 155-milimeter field guns after paying kickbacks to Indian officials.

Gen Sundarji said even the resignation of Minister of State for Defence Arun Singh in July 1987 was linked to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's reluctance to cancel the contract with Bofors.

"One of the major reasons why Arun Singh resigned was he felt nothing should be done to harm the Army, which is one of the institutions left relatively untouched by the crumbling process affecting some other institutions," he said.

It was the first time that Gen Sundarji, who retired as chief of Army staff in April 1988, has spoken out on the controversial gun deal. Gen Sundarji, who initiated several changes in the Army during his tenure, was called a "thinking man's general." [passage omitted]

N.T. Rama Rao, chief minister of Andhra Pradesh State, in response to the INDIA TODAY report, said Gen Sundarji had exhibited "a high sense of integrity and moral courage" by making revelations on the Bofors gun contract.

Mr Rama Rao, chairman of the four-party opposition grouping called National Front and who instigated the MPs [members of parliament] resignations in July, said the Bofors deal confirmed suspicions and lent credence to his anxiety over national defence and security. Renewing his call for the resignation of the Gandhi government, Mr Rama Rao said Mr Gandhi should step down and make a "clean breast of the whole matter."

Congress-I Responds to Charges

BK0609062889 Hong Kong AFP in English 0612 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 6 (AFP)—Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party has launched a broadside against ex-army chief Krishnaswami Sundarji for making embarrassing disclosures about a controversial gun deal with the Swedish arms firm Bofors.

P.N. Sukul, secretary of the Congress (I)'s Parliamentary Group, questioned General Sundarji's motives in going public with sensitive information relating to the $1.3 billion contract signed in 1986. The deal has been steeped in controversy over allegations that Bofors had paid $50 million in commissions to win the contract to supply the Indian Army with a field artillery system.

"Why has Gen Sundarji taken 16 months after his retirement to make the so-called revelations," Mr Sukul asked in a statement released here Tuesday. "This delay creates suspicion in the minds of the people about the actual intentions of the former army chief," he said.

In an interview with the bi-monthly INDIA TODAY magazine published over the weekend, Gen Sundarji disclosed that he had advised the government to threaten Bofors with cancellation of the contract to force the firm to name beneficiaries of the alleged commissions. The general hinted strongly that Mr Gandhi had stonewalled attempts to pressure Bofors, a charge the premier denied, and sparked off a new furor over the scandal that first erupted in April 1987.

Industry Minister J. Vengal Rao said Sunday that Gen Sundarji was frustrated because the government had not given him a sinecure after his retirement from the Army in April 1988. He said Gen Sundarji, who became Army chief in February 1986, perhaps wanted to be an opposition candidate in general elections due at year-end. Mr Sukul said the government had done no wrong by ignoring the general's advice to scrap the deal. He said the advice was not binding on the government.

"If the government ignored the suggestion...there was nothing wrong about it and the government or the prime minister does not owe any explanation to anyone in the matter," he said, noting that even Gen Sundarji had conceded that the Bofors gun was the best choice.

Gen Sundarji's disclosures have provided fresh ammunition to the opposition which has renewed calls for Mr Gandhi's resignation ahead of general elections due in December when the Congress (I)'s five-year term in government expires.

In July, 104 opposition MP's resigned after a report by an official watchdog body, appointed by the president, listed several irregularities in the Bofors deal and accused the Swedish gunmakers of paying huge commissions.

The controversy, kept alive by periodic newspaper disclosures, erupted with a Swedish radio report on April

16, 1987 that Bofors had paid hefty bribes to Congress (I) party politicians and key defence officials to win the gun contract over French competitors Sofma. The contract is the richest ever awarded by the Indian Defence Ministry.

Foreign Minister Discusses Mideast Policy

PM0509143489 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 23 Aug 89 p 3

[Unattributed interview with Indian External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao; place, date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Interviewer] As we know, India is a founder state of the Nonaligned Movement, which laid down new foundations for international relations in the fields of strengthening the Third World states' national independence and deepening the policy of international detente. Is that policy still valid in the present international situation?

[Rao] In an age experiencing polarization it is essential for the Nonaligned Movement to adapt to the changing facts. There is a common misunderstanding that the nonaligned policy derives its system from the contradictions and tensions in the superpowers' relations and the resultant polarization in international relations. In the past tireless efforts were made to cast doubt on the realism of nonalignment whenever there were hopes about detente in international relations. I would like to point out that nonalignment is primarily a policy stressing the independence of decisionmaking vis-a-vis important issues—that is, in line with every country's national interests. [passage omitted]

[Interviewer] India's stances of support for the Arab issues have always had a positive impact in the United Nations, at nonaligned conferences, and within other organizations. Is there a new development in your understanding of the nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict, especially in the light of the people's intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Arab territory and the exposing of Israel's deception, since Israel is pursuing a racist, expansionist policy hostile to peace and international laws and resolutions?

[Rao] No just peace can be achieved in the Middle East without a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem. Such a settlement must be based on Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the upholding of the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination and to establish their independent state. We are convinced that the best framework for that is a UN-sponsored international peace conference in which the Security Council's permanent member states and all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO, would participate. India is committed to backing all efforts to convene that conference as soon as possible.

[Interviewer] How, in your view, can good-neighbor relations be established with Pakistan in the light of Gandhi's meetings with Benazir Bhutto?

[Rao] The Indian and Pakistani prime ministers have agreed to work jointly to dispel all suspicions and fears and to lay foundations for staunch relations based on friendship and cooperation. [passage omitted]

Our peoples want to establish relations of amity and friendship between them, and this is in the interests of peace and stability in our region. And there is a commitment at the highest political level to establishing relations beneficial to both sides and free from tension.

[Interviewer] India announced that it would withdraw its forces from Sri Lanka on specific conditions. Could you clarify your position on that matter?

[Rao] Withdrawing the Indian peacekeeping forces planlessly and without finding an alternative mechanism for protecting and securing the inhabitants of the Northeastern province, especially the Tamils, involves the risk of a bloodshed. An alternative mechanism can only be established by implementing the Indian-Sri Lankan agreement, especially with regard to transferring the appropriate powers to the province by the Sri Lankan Government. It is worth mentioning that a similar situation of instability occurred before the Indian-Sri Lankan agreement and was exploited by foreign powers, including Israel, to consolidate their presence in Sri Lanka. [passage omitted]

18 Opposition Legislators Suspended in Tripura

BK3108152889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] In Tripura assembly, all the 18 opposition legislators, including their leader, Mr Nripen Chakraborty, were suspended today for the day and marshalled out of the House for disorderly behavior. The House witnessed a noisy scene, following the allegation made by an opposition member on the reported stabbing of the wife of an MLA [member of Legislative Assembly] in Agartala this morning. In spite of the chief minister's categorical assurance to make a statement, the opposition members started shouting slogans and obstructing the proceedings. On this, the speaker named them and they were marshalled out.

BBC Correspondent Visits Disputed Siachen Area

BK0309075089 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 3 Sep 89

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] The Indian Army is moving supplies into its positions high in the Himalayan mountains on the Siachen glacier, where its long territorial dispute with Pakistan seems set to continue. With the current talks between Delhi and Islamabad bogged down, India has shown a group of foreign correspondents the Army's preparations to maintain its hold on the inhospitable terrain. Among them was the BBC's Mark Tully.

[Begin Mark Tully recording] Flying over one of the world's highest passes I saw army lorries crawling along the mud track which leads into the Siachen valley, making full use of the supply route before it is closed by the winter snow. We landed on an isolated airstrip the other side of the pass, where we were transferred to a Soviet MI-17 helicopter of the Indian Air Force. It flew over the glacier, which winds between bleak, brown shale mountains. Only their peaks are covered with snow this time of year.

This inhospitable terrain was unoccupied until 5 years ago. But India suspected that Pakistan was going to press its claim for the area, with its pass leading to China. By occupying the mountain top India gained the advantage. Pakistani troops made their latest unsuccessful attempt to improve their position 4 months ago. They tried to drag [as heard] soldiers by helicopter onto a vantage point. There are still exchanges of fire every day.

Major General Raghavan, who commands the Siachen sector, wouldn't give figures of casualties nor details of the cost of this operation. He did, however, say a continuous and indefinite stay here presents us no problem. That clearly was the message which India wants to give Pakistan.

There have been articles in the Indian press suggesting that the cost of Siachen is too heavy. The (?little I saw) of Siachen in the history of the last 5 years indicates that the Indian Army can continue to hold the Saltoro range in spite of living conditions no other army in the world endure. [end recording]

Nepal Raising Bilateral Issue at Belgrade Summit

BK0109155289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] India feels that raising of bilateral issues in multilateral fora will not serve any constructive purpose. This was stated by the External Affairs Ministry spokesman in New Delhi today while replying to queries from newsmen about the reported statement of the Nepalese foreign minister indicating his country's intention to raise the trade and transit issue at the Belgrade nonaligned summit.

The spokesman said India being a founder member of NAM [Nonaligned Movement] has not raised bilateral issues in multilateral fora. It does not propose to begin the practice now. He said New Delhi is committed to the UN Charter. All problems of bilateral nature are best solved through good will, good faith, and dialogue for which India is always ready. Such objectives cannot be met by attempting to score points in multilateral fora by internationalizing the issues.

High-Level Omani Delegation Arrives 4 Sep

BK0509051289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] A 7-member high-level delegation from Oman arrived in New Delhi yesterday evening on a 5-day official visit. The delegation headed by Oman's minister of agriculture and fisheries, Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Abdallah ibn Zahir al-Hinai, is scheduled to have talks with the agriculture minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, on issues of bilateral interest in the field of agriculture.

Joint Publication of Nehru, Ho Chi Minh Writings

BK0109054889 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] India and Vietnam are to jointly publish the selected writings of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Ho Chi Minh as part of celebrations of the birth centenaries of the two leaders. This was decided during a meeting which the AICC-I [All India Congress Committee-I] general secretary, Mr V.N. Gadgil, had with the secretary general of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Mr Nguyen Van Linh, in Ho Chi Minh City. Mr Gadgil was leading an AICC-I delegation which was recently on a visit to Vietnam.

Iran

Besharati on Gorbachev Visit, Improving Ties

LD0509104589 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA—Iran's relations with the Soviet Union will improve in the days to come and with France is witnessing an upgraded trend, said a senior Foreign Ministry official to the TEHRAN TIMES.

In an interview published in the daily's Tuesday [5 September] issue, First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati touched on relations with the Soviet Union, France and the situation in Afghanistan.

On Irano-Soviet ties he affirmed that the relations are rapidly imporving. "We really believe that all the commitments made by Moscow were and are being implemented," he said.

Besharati was referring to an unprecedented protocol signed by the two countries during the last June visit to Moscow of the then Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani who was elected president in July 28 election.

"The Soviets have showed goodwill intentions towards their ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran," he added.

Besharati also disclosed that the visit of the Soviet leader and President Mikhail Gorbachev "may take place at any time." "The Soviet-Iran relations are such that Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrived here last month without any programming," he pointed out.

Besharati added whenever the officials of the two countries feel in is necessary the exchange of visits of the officials can take place.

Commenting on Irano-French relations he expressed satisfaction over the current upward trends and hoped that these ties will improve further, he told the paper.

He recalled that "French President Francois Mitterrand was the second leader of the European Community who sent a congratulatory message to President Hashemi-Rafsanjani after his election to the post and French companies are buying Iranian oil at a satisfactory level."

During the interview, the Foreign Ministry official criticized the interim government of the Afghan mujahidin for their inter-group disunity.

On the proposed conference on the Afghan issue, he said "the fewer the number of participants the better the welcome." "Those countries who really suffered during the last 10 years of Soviet occupation of Afghanistan should be included in the conference," he urged.

"I do not see any reason for India and China being included in the conference," Besharati said.

Civil Aviation Protocol Signed With USSR

LD0109222889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] During a visit to the Soviet Union by the head of Civil Aviation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a protocol on the general guidelines for future communication between the two countries was signed.

According to an IRNA report, the Civil Aviation chief and his entourage returned from a 2-week trip to the Soviet Union on Thursday [31 August] evening. Announcing the news, he referred to his talks with Soviet authorities on the aircraft industry. He said: The Soviet Union made some positive suggestions for the transfer of civil aircraft technology, and leasing and sales of aircraft.

According to this report, during their trip the Iranian delegation visited a number of civilian airports, aircraft repair hangars, and passenger aircraft manufacturing plants in USSR.

Some of the Iranian experts in the delegation described the Soviet aircraft industry as comparable with similar Western technology and called the Soviet Union's proposal on the transfer of the aircraft industry technology to Iran positive.

Aviation Technology Offered

LD0209173989 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 2, IRNA—The Soviet Union has presented some proposals on transfer of aviation technology as well as charter and sale of passenger planes to Iran, said head of the Civil Aviation Organization Mohammad Nabi Habibi on Friday.

In an interview with IRNA after his return from a two-week visit to Moscow, Habibi said he was satisfied with the results of the visit and that the Soviets received the Iranian delegation warmly.

Adverting to the inking of a protocol including general principles of future Moscow-Tehran cooperation in aviation industry, Habibi said "the Soviet Union has made considerable improvement in aviation industry."

Soviet officials, he noted, expressed great interest in expanding ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran in aviation industry. Therefore, he said, experts from the two countries will continue their contacts.

Some Iranian experts describe Soviet aviation industry competitive with similar western industries and evaluate as "positive" Moscow's proposal for transfer of aviation industry technology to Iran.

Clergy Group Say No Compromise With U.S. Possible

NC0209130089 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 27 Aug 89 pp 1, 5

[Report by M. Soltanifar]

[Text] A leading society of the 'ulema yesterday blasted the United States of America because of its "hostile" attitude against the Iranians and the Islamic Revolution.

Majma'-e Ruhaniyun-e Mobarez or the Association of Combatant 'Ulema in a statement published yesterday said that no reconciliation was possible through invitations to the United States for negotiations, or enticing offers made to them, since the differences between Iran and the United States went deeper down to fundamental issues.

They said that it was the essentially "criminal" nature of the United States which made reconciliation with a nation that has accepted the "purity of Islamic principles" a most difficult affair.

The association was formed in April 1988. Majlis Speaker Mehdi Karrubi is the secretary general of the association which has been officially recognized by the Ministry of Interior early this year.

Former Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Minister of Islamic Guidance Seyyed Mohammad Khatami, Majlis Deputy Mohammad Do'ai and former prosecutor general of the Islamic Revolution Musavi-Kho'iniha are among the known members of the association.

The statement supported the statement of Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i which he made last week in which he rejected the idea of talking to the United States "as long as the White House continued to base its foreign policy on lies and deceit and supports Israel."

The statement, however, urged the nation of Iran to give full support to Ayatollah Khamene'i and President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani for continuation of the late imam's line and the protection of the high ideals of the Islamic Revolution.

The association's statement criticized those who talk for the compromise with the United States and said that such people are ignorant of the real nature of the Western arrogance.

Such statement on the compromise with the United States were aimed by Iran's enemies to destroy the genuine nature of the revolution.

Finally the statement quoted the statement of the late imam as saying that "Iran will never stretch its hand towards the United States unless it dies."

Western Governments Want To 'Control' Country

PM0509141189 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian 23 Aug 89 p 8

[Editorial: "Exposing the Character of the Western Mass Media for Independent Nations"]

[Text] There has recently been a series of items of news on the foreign mass media—regardless of whether or not they are true—that show a kind of wish by the Western powers to exercise control over the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The BBC broadcast a news item on 14 August about Iranian moves to buy a quantity of poisonous mushrooms. It quoted its correspondent as saying: Iran says that it wants to use the mushrooms in scientific research, but it is being said that Iran's intention is to use the mushrooms to obtain an antidote to chemical and biological weapons.

THE NEW YORK TIMES commented on the same subject and said: U.S. Administration officials are claiming that Iran's efforts to buy the poisonous mushrooms could be linked to the production of weapons to counter chemical weapons. Iranian researchers have tried to buy a variety of mushrooms from Canada and the Netherlands, but Iran's efforts in this area were thwarted by the Bush administration's intervention.

A while ago the Western mass media created a lot of noise about Iran's buying chemicals from Germany and India, and at that time they again said that the West had prevented this material from reaching Iran.

This type of news item broadcast from the West indicates a kind of enforcement of power. It is an official announcement to the effect that, although Iraq has now gained access to biological weapons, as long as the West remains unwilling, Iran will not be allowed to even obtain defense capabilities against those weapons.

In a report at the end of July THE WASHINGTON POST justified U.S. supplies of chemical and biological weapons to the Iraqis by saying that Iraq had been successful in the production of chemical and biological weapons and is already self-sufficient. U.S. efforts to stop this trend had been unsuccessful. This had forced the Bush administration to reconsider its position.

It is obvious that Iraq could never have produced this type of weaponry without help from Western nations. When Iraq used these weapons widely against Iranian troops during the 8-year war, none of the Western countries paid any attention to it. After the war, Iraq announced officially that it had used chemical weapons against Iranian troops and later against its own Kurdish population in the north of the country. Again there was no move on the part of Western countries to condemn Iraq because they themselves were the suppliers of the weapons, or at least of the raw materials for the weapons. On the other hand, the West is now trying to put across Iran's hostility to the West as a reason for preventing this country from having access to much of the material that it seeks.

The important thing to note in this type of exchange is that the West is preventing Iran from gaining materials to counter the effects of chemical weapons. Many analysts believe that the deployment of chemical weapons was the final factor that forced Tehran to come to terms with accepting a cease-fire, to give up its original and just demands on the aggressor. That is why the United States is trying to hold on to this inhuman bonus point, so that it can be used in the future again to break the positions taken by the Islamic revolution.

The United States announces officially that it is unable to control Iraq's production of chemical weapons, yet it prevents Iran's slightest move to find materials to counter such weapons. The main point in this issue is the audacity of the Western governments, especially the United States, which want to put the point across that without their consent no independent country is allowed to exist in the world, that one way or another we all have to accept the ways of the West. Bringing this type of issue out into the open could open the minds of freedom-loving peoples around the world in the face of Western propaganda.

U.S. Naval Officer Criticizes 'Vincennes' Actions

LD0309175289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1047 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Station commentary: "The Confession of a U.S. Commander to State Terrorism by the United States"]

[Text] A U.S. military commander published an article in one of the U.S. military periodicals in which he studied the causes for the downing of the Iranian passenger airliner by the warship "Vincennes."

It is worth paying attention to the analysis by this top U.S. military source because he was present in the Persian Gulf as commander of a warship for a time

before this incident. Also, on the day of the incident, he witnessed closely the process of his colleagues' criminal action.

On the other side, this U.S. Navy commander's critical remarks concerning the performance of the warship "Vincennes" commander have brought into question many remarks and official U.S. positions regarding the causes of the incident. This was when, in various stages, U.S. officials were trying to indicate that the incident was the outcome of the Iran-Iraq war and the crisis that existed in the Persian Gulf in order to justify their military presence in the region.

However, this U.S. officer clearly indicated that all U.S. efforts following the downing of the Iranian passenger airliner to show that Iran was guilty have been useless because, in his opinion, the incident was a direct outcome of the attack mode and behavior of the warship "Vincennes," so such incidents had been expected for a long time.

The U.S. officer admitted that at the time of the incident, the radars of the warship under his command, which was near the "Vincennes," had spotted the Iranian airliner in a climbing, and not an attack position. This is at a time when Washington up to now has claimed that the Iranian passenger plane, while taking an attack position, was flying outside its normal route, in order to justify the U.S. piracy.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has stressed many times that the downing of the Iranian passenger plane by the warship "Vincennes" not only was a deliberate incident, but official terrorism of the White House, which was pursuing certain goals by resorting to such a crime.

So the downing of the Iranian passenger plane was another act in the scenario of the policy of resorting to psychological and military pressure. That policy began with the U.S. support for Iraq in the imposed war and became clearer with the attack on Iranian economical interests, such as the destruction of the Iranian oil platforms in the Persian Gulf, and finally with the downing of the Iranian passenger plane.

TEHRAN TIMES Assailed for Article on Cooper

PM0509133989 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian 23 Aug 89 p 8

[Editorial: "TEHRAN TIMES Praises British Spy"]

[Text] The TEHRAN TIMES, the English-language morning daily, has praised the British spy Roger Cooper in one of its articles. In a 10 August article, the newspaper praises this spy for translating a poem written by the late Imam Khomeyni and for writing an article for the TEHRAN TIMES praising the late Imam.

Following the TEHRAN TIMES piece, the BBC, which is eager for such opportunities, announced in its Persian program: In Tehran an English-language daily has praised a British prisoner for translating a poem written by Ayatollah Khomeyni. Mr Roger Cooper sent his translation and an article on the poem to the TEHRAN TIMES from his prison cell.

The BBC added: Roger Cooper praised Ayatollah Khomeyni in his article as a good writer. The TEHRAN TIMES has also praised Roger Cooper as a worthy researcher and a talented poet.

The fact that Roger Cooper is allowed to have written contact outside his prison and the fact that he is allowed to freely express himself to those outside the prison indicate that there is freedom in this country's prison system, even for someone who is a spy. The issue here is: Why is it that a newspaper that is printed in Iran has become a mouthpiece for a spy?

It would not be hard to find out about Roger Cooper's action in translating the Imam's poem. But to engage in propaganda on his behalf and to praise him means siding politically with the British government, which regrets the loss of an experienced and valued spy.

The BBC news item did not once mention the fact that Roger Cooper admitted to the spying charge. He was mentioned as a prisoner of this regime. This was then followed by the praises quoted from the TEHRAN TIMES and Cooper's family background—the fact that his uncle was a poet and so forth—followed by praises for the Cooper article itself, saying how well it was written. Does all this not raise a question in the people's mind as to why such a well-educated and cultured man is in jail in the first place?

Roger Cooper has himself admitted that for years he spied for various British intelligence services. For some time now the Iranian press has been asking why his trial and punishment have been delayed. Under these circumstances, does the TEHRAN TIMES article not raise questions? The TEHRAN TIMES copies the Western style of journalism and strives to be quoted by Western papers and by foreigners who live in Iran. Without a doubt it is aiming to make a name for itself in world media circles. Showing the ability to seek the truth and to work in the service of political goals are the special qualifications for attaining such a goal.

The act of praising a British spy now clarifies some things that have happened in the past. Perhaps there are special reasons for choosing certain channels to translate some of the things written by the TEHRAN TIMES—which is a whole different story by itself.

Daily Criticizes Foreign Ministry's Sudan Policy

LD0509182389 Tehran IRNA in English 1808 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 4, IRNA—The Persian daily KEYHAN Tuesday said in a commentary in relation with the recent recalling from Tehran of Sudan's ambassador that the Sudanese Government had long since

designed to do so and that a program broadcast on the Iranian television recently was simply an excuse.

It said: "The visit to Baghdad by General al-Bashir immediately after the recalling of the Sudanese ambassador from Tehran clearly indicates that the action has been a special gift by the Sudanese to the Iraqi ruler, and that by doing that Al-Bashir has meant to please the ruling regime in Baghdad as well as the Ba'th Party.

Previously, it said, (ousted prime minister) Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi had clearly invested on promoting a policy of cordiality with the Islamic Republic and despite all pressure on him he could never bring himself to do anything by way of appealing to the United States, Iraq, and the reactionary regimes in the region.

"From the beginning the nature of the coup regime in Sudan was all largely obvious," said KEYHAN, "despite that for not too good reasons the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic refused to adopt a proper stand towards the coup regime and in a message almost recognized the new regime in that country... This inappropriate stand which was beyond the Islamic Republic of Iran was adopted as a result of lack of information about Sudan and betrayed the deficiency on the part of Iran in the collection of information about that country.

"But from other aspects the stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran may as well have been the result of inappropriate analysis of information. In fact if any such information should happen to contrast with tangible facts and with conclusions derived from such facts it may prove to be very risky to rely on.

"The status of the countries welcoming the coup regime in Sudan and speaking in its support there was no sound reason for questioning the truth of the implications of their acts.... [sentence as received]

The daily said that development also proves a lack of coordinated foreign relations strategy on the part of Iran consistent with the officially-declared foreign relations principles of Islamic Republic....

"While Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi made advances for intimate relations with Iran the Islamic Republic evaded an early and straightforward reply and postponed that reply until finally it saw a state-coup in Sudan, and even then Iran did not tread a proper course in its relations with the new regime in Sudan."

The commentary concluded that in view of Al-Bashir's decision it can only be hoped that the preemptive measure by General al-Bashir in Sudan "which in fact should have been Iran's gesture" will eventually prompt the Iranian Government to re-evaluate its strategies in its foreign relations.

More on Ministry's Position

NC0509185489 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sep 5 (AFP)—An Iranian newspaper Tuesday criticized the position of the country's Foreign Ministry on the new Sudanese Government as "passive" and "ambiguous" and said Iran had abandoned former prime minister Sadiq al-Mahdi.

KEYHAN, Iran's leading paper, faulted the ministry for having implicitly recognized the new government of Brigadier-General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir in a message to the new administration following the overthrow of Mr. al-Mahdi June 30.

"The position taken by the Iranian Foreign Ministry on the regime that came from the coup d'etat in Sudan was without a doubt another instance of passivity and ambiguity marking certain political decisions taken by Tehran," KEYHAN said in a lengthy commentary.

"Tehran dropped Mr. al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, who had from the start supported a policy of rapprochement with the Islamic Republic (of Iran) and had refused any compromise, notably with the United States, Iraq and reactionary states in the region," according to KEYHAN. It said the position reflected a shortcoming in Iran's information-gathering mechanism.

Paper Urges Closer Regional Cooperation

LD0409090389 Tehran IRNA in English 0833 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 4, IRNA—An Iranian English daily Monday recommended regional countries to re-evaluate their policies and draw a sound strategy for forming a possible regional alliance.

The TEHRAN TIMES said that it would be agreed by all that it was not in the interest of any country to live in a zone high with tension.

"All the countries in the region and the Persian Gulf will have to re-evaluate their previous policies and chalk out a sound strategy that can from the basis of a possible regional allies and avoid quarrels among themselves," said the daily's editorial.

TEHRAN TIMES referred to the offer of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (PGCC) countries last week for improved ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran which was warmly responded to. It said that Iran has always called for better relations with neighbouring countries even after the outbreak of Iraqi-imposed war and siding of neighbouring countries with Iraq.

Despite the souring of relations, Iran tried to maintain cordial ties with the neigbouring states and advised them to remain neutral and avoid compromising over their friendship with Iran, it said.

The paper advised the Foreign Ministry policy-makers to work towards improvement of ties with regional states. "Now that the flames of war have quenched, if not quite put off and extinguished, it is high time to cement these ties with some of our closest neighbours in such a way that they will remain firm and never suffer to be broken again in the future."

NAM Should 'Interfere' in Regional Issues

LD0309170989 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 3, IRNA—The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has turned into an "inactive organisation" due to favoritism and factionalism of some of its members states, a parliamentarian said here today.

Majlis Deputy for Lenjan, Esfahan Province, Ja'fari Esfahani in his pre-agenda speech compared NAM with the United Nations for its weakness and called on the Iranian Foreign Ministry to take a decisive stance vis-a-vis "NAM's conservative position" towards world's critical issues.

"If the non-aligned countries seek to exist they better interfere in regional issues and do not let a so-called movement member like Iraq to create tension in the region and hinder establishment of real peace," he warned.

Turning to the peace talks and Iraqi illogical impediments in this regard, the deputy said peace-seeking slogans chanted by the Iraqi regime and the U.N Security Council would be considered as mere "lies" as long as Iraq forces have not withdrawn to the 1975 borders and failed to implement articles of the Resolution 598.

Esfahani also regreted attitude of the U.N. chief towards Iraqi impediments in the course of the peace talks.

Daily Questions Direction of Nonaligned Movement

LD0609103689 Tehran IRNA in English 0650 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA—The English daily TEHRAN TIMES Wednesday in its editorial raised the question whether the new trends introduced by the Yugoslav President inviting Third World to stop confrontation with Washington and Moscow would help.

President Janes Drnovsek who took over the leadership of NAM [Nonaligned Movement] for the next three years called on NAM to steer away from "ideological prejudices" and adjust to the new trends now taking place in the world.

Meanwhile Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe when handing over his three year chairmanships to the Yugoslav president said "our rejection of imperialism, colonialism and racism, including Zionism is based on fundamental principles and is not negotiable."

"It is only greed and selfishness and a desire to hold on to power for the rich that impels support by West and East for such inhumanistic creeds spotlighted by the Zambian president. The West has to reckon with this," the daily said.

TEHRAN TIMES criticized NAM's inability to make headway in finding solutions to regional conflicts including the Iraq-Iran war, Afghanistan, Lebanon and Palestine crises.

"In all of these the hand of big power interests and a lack of desire to see an end to them may be seen," the daily said adding "we suspect it is in the interests of the bigger powers to keep the mess going."

It stressed that NAM should be powerful enough to bring parties who refuse to agree to reasonable and amenable solutions to see how much at fault they were.

"NAM should make it clear that any guilty party will be shunned by the movement as denying and being disloyal to the fundamental spiritual aims of a highly laudable movement for the world," TEHRAN TIMES concluded.

Editorial Urges UN To Pressure Iraq To Withdraw

LD0509101389 Tehran IRNA in English 0640 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA—The English daily TEHRAN TIMES Tuesday editorialized on the deadlocked Iraq-Iran peace talks urging the U.N. chief to remove the main hurdle in the way of Resolution 598—Iraqi occupation of Iranian territories.

The issue of deadlocked Iraq-Iran peace talks is to be raised in the ongoing Belgrade Ninth Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Turning to the Monday meeting of Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati with U.N. head Javier Perez de Cuellar and his meeting with the Iraqi foreign minister scheduled for Tuesday, the paper said there seems to be no chance for a breakthrough in the stalled talks. Unless there is some movement in efforts of U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and a change in the stand of the two parties involved, not much hope can be placed on any breakthrough, said the paper. Iraq continues to insist on face-to-face talks outside the auspices of the United Nations while Iran holds on to its stand that the talks must be held under the supervision of Perez de Cuellar, said the daily.

It said that just as last month meeting of deputy foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq with the U.N. chief's special envoy Jan Eliasson produced no concrete result, the Belgrade meetings of foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq with de cuellar are unlikely to bring about a positive change.

TEHRAN TIMES predicted that there will be no peace talks in the near future stressing that as long as Iranian territories remain under occupation in definace of "all

principles of international jurisdiction prospects for talks which can be a working out towards peace will be dim indeed."

"Iran can negotiate on anything, but to be sure it will not on the question of allowing parts of its land to be occupied," it concluded.

Editorial Says Silence May 'Damage' Mujahidin

NC0209110089 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 28 Aug 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Tehran's Silence May Damage Mujahidin Cause"]

[Text] No one with the interests of the Afghan Mujahidin at heart would like to see factional fighting increase and the sooner there is reconciliation, the better for the Mujahidin cause and the Muslim Afghan people of that country which has suffered the blight of a war for far too long. Therefore, the recent revelation that Sa'id Jamal, one of the high-ranking commanders in the Hizb-i Islami has beer arrested by a rival group the Jami'at-e Islami, can be disturbing if his trial is conducted in too hasty a manner.

Leaders of the Hizb-i Islami, one of the seven-party alliance groups based in Peshawar, have confirmed that Sa'id Jamal has been arrested by rival forces of the Jami'at who also are part of the alliance. Burhanuddin Rabbani, the leader of the Jami'at has also said that Jamal was arrested for his part in the Takhar massacre in which 30 top Jami'at commanders were killed.

The two rival organizations for long have been engaged in competition for supremacy in the Takhar and Panjsher regions of Afghanistan. The Maji'at, thanks to one of its commanders, Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, has had the upper hand so far. Ahmad Shah is said to be a smart and clever Tajik (deriving from the ethnic Tajiks of Soviet Tajikestan) known for his heroic feats during the soviet occupation.

Yet, with all this long history of bravery and resistance, the Takhar incident sadly casts a shadow over the wonderful record of Afghan resistance to the Soviet and Marxist forces. The pain of this incident to all those in sympathy with the Afghan Mujahidin cause is more acute when it comes as the Afghan Marxist puppet Najibullah continues still to be in power.

Jamal's arrest will certainly exacerbate tensions between the two groups. The Hizb-i Islami has claimed that many of its troops have been killed by Jami'at guerillas when they went for Jamal's capture.

While no one can deny that those responsible for the Takhar massacre have to be brought to justice, it will be necessary to see that such justice is dispensed through an impartial and independent court or councilor or an inquiry commission as earlier suggested by the groups. If such a court is made up of judges chosen by the Jami'at, it can only be too obvious that impartiality will be at stake, since the massacre involved their own group members. And even if the verdict is a just one, it is highly unlikely that the Hizb-i Islami is going to accept or abide by it. Hence the chances for further hot confrontations are replete in such a situation.

Tehran which has friendly relations with the Jami'at-e Islami should urge the leaders of this group to restraint and not go for a quick trial with all the potential for increased tensions among the rival groups. Silence on Tehran's part at this juncture can be damaging to the Afghan revolutionary cause.

Navy To Stage 'Full-Scale' Gulf Maneuvers in Dec

LD0309164589 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 3, IRNA—Iran's Navy is to stage a full-scale amphibious maneuvers in the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea December, according to Navy Commander Rear Admiral Mohammad-Hoseyn Malekzadegan here today.

Malekzadegan said the maneuvers will feature various operations including evacuation of troops at a sea border of a hypothetical enemy and will also demonstrate the combat capacity of the Iranian Navy.

Nahavand Guards Smash 2 Narcotics Rings

LD0309104389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] The guards of the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Nahavand succeeded in uncovering and smashing two narcotics rings involved in procuring and distributing narcotics in that region. According to a Central News Unit report a total of 7 kgs of opium, 1 kgs of heroin, five combat weapons, and nine vehicles, were discovered on the 27 members of these rings, and confiscated. They were delivered to the judicial authorities, as well as the culprits.

Guards Arrest 17 Drug Traffickers in Khorasan

LD0509102589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Thanks to the efforts of the Islamic revolution committee guards in the Khorasan Province, 17 drug traffickers were arrested. The guards seized 8.7kg of opium and opium juice and 100g heroin, two vehicles, and 84,000 rials in cash from the arrested drug peddlers.

President Appoints Habibi Office Chief

LD0509152889 Tehran IRNA in English 1420 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani today appointed Vice-President Hasan Habibi as head of the Presidential Office. In another

development, Habibi appointed 'Ali Beheshtian as his deputy for the presidential bureau.

Habibi replaces Mostafa Mir Salim who was in charge of the presidential office during former President Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i. Ayatollah Khamene'i was elected leader of the Islamic revolution one day after the demise of Imam Khomeyni on June 4.

According to the amended Constitution which received public approval in a referendum on July 28, the post of premiership has been omitted and the president also undertakes duties of the prime minister.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani who served as Majlis speaker for the past eight years before being elected as president on July 28, has so far appointed seven vice-presidents: Hasan Habibi first vice-president in charge of cabinet mininsters, Fatollah Mohajerani in charge of parliamentary affairs and Hamid Mirzadeh in charge of executive affairs.

Others are: Hasan Ghafurifard head of the physical education organization, Mahdi Manafi head of the environment protection organization, Reza Amrollahi head of the atomic energy organization and Mansur Razavi head of the organization for state employment and administrative affairs. The last four have been reinstated in the same posts as they used to serve during Hoseyn Musavi's premiership.

President Chairs Cabinet Session on 5-Year Plan

LD0309190989 Tehran IRNA in English 1752 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept 3, IRNA—The Cabinet today discussed issues in the first five-year development plan, and reviewed various viewpoints in relation with the socio-economic plan. President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani presided over the session.

First Vice-President Hasan Habibi told reporters that in order to expedite revision of the plan the Cabinet today allotted three weekly sessions to the task, one session in addition to the previous schedule.

He said at the future session of the Cabinet representatives of the plan and budget organization are to present their viewpoints in relations with points raised by the cabinet on planning topics.

KEYHAN HAVAI Welcomes President's Policies

PM0109152189 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian 23 Aug 89 pp 1, 9

[Editorial: "The Formation of the New Cabinet Brings Hope for Basic Actions"]

[Text] One must consider the formation of the cabinet chosen by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani as the first successful step in the face of the issues and problems afflicting society. Without a doubt the one thing that will lessen the effect of good management in the country is the continued trend toward carrying out the views of various groups which want, with rightist or leftist slogans, to gain a place for themselves. During the past few years these centers of power have not only been focal points for airing different political views: They were, for some opportunistic elements, a base to hide behind in the face of the law.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani has managed to choose experienced elements who are independent and unconnected with influential forces. He will be able to pull his government away from the quicksand of political quarrels, as a first and basic step.

Of course, their separation from nameless and faceless currents does not mean that all the people chosen are free from political tendencies. Rather, the special quality of the cabinet is the fact that its members are not so much part of various groups as simply capable individuals.

Some political currents in the country are seeking to gain influence, and experience has shown that this has not always been in the people's interest. In many cases the people's interests have been sacrificed to those of various groups. A superficial and basic look at the actions of the Majlis in the past few sessions brings us to this reality: that political considerations were the top priority when dealing with the executive managers of the country. During this period, some of the nation's managers, enjoying support and backing from certain groups, did not see themselves as responsible to the people or before the law. The actions of high officials were rarely discussed in the Majlis without regard to political considerations.

As far as nationalist or sympathetic people were concerned, this trend had to end so that society could regain its health, so that all could feel themselves equal before the law.

The actions of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, at the beginning of his work, have stopped the mixing of responsibilities, to give strength to the management of the country. The formation of the cabinet indicates that all schools of thought will have a hand in running the executive branch. This way, there will be no room for those who raised the slogan of wanting to prevent centralization—who in reality only wanted to safeguard their own influence. One must note that we shall only be able to fight individualistic attitudes by activating all responsible sectors of society. If in the future the three powers (legislative, judicial, and executive) stay away from group politics and political considerations, we shall no doubt see some basic changes in the country.

Of course, for some time now the Western mass media and those elements linked to them inside the country have been trying to promote individualistic attitudes. The promise to solve problems within a short time has no aim other than to put the executive officials in the country under pressure. Western propaganda has during this short time engendered certain hopes in society.

which indicate that the country's managers have no choice but to turn to outside help in order to save their own political face.

The country's politics, economics, and culture can be safeguarded against threats only by taking steps towards a healthy society. This important action will only be possible with the serious participation of all sectors of society.

The truth of the matter is that, contrary to what most people believe, our society's problems are not caused by a lack of hard currency or Western economic pressure. The entire country's facilities have to be put to work within a healthy framework so that we can become a self-sufficient nation. In this process, we recognize the actions taken by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani as positive steps, and we hope that other sectors also take some basic actions at the start of this new era so that we can realize our goals in the future.

KAYHAN Praises President's Program

LD0509083789 Tehran IRNA in English 0725 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA—An English daily Tuesday hailed President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's declared program for removing the country's ills as being "right, courageous and on the mark" but said "its survival will only be guaranteed if he moves swiftly to tackle priority issues."

KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL said in its editorial "full public confidence in the new government will serve to help President Hashemi-Rafsanjani in fulfilling his obligations."

"How that level of cooperation is to be achieved is up to his ministers to decide in the not too distant future," it said quoting a minister as saying "the general approach should be to create confidence and attract people's cooperation in economic areas. The editor stressed "confidence and cooperation are two sides of a coin...and many a problem can be resolved through these two factors." The paper, however, noted "the pressure of (the Iraqi) war and its drastic side effects on the economic and social lifeline was playing a primary role in rendering large sectors of the masses pessimistic."

"At that time it was not unnatural that the middle and lower classes were displaying a gradual lack of confidence in the economic policies of the government.

"This was a frightening development and would prove to be a threat to the Iranian society if rational forces had not checked its influence. With decency and honesty on the decline and economic laws diminishing a bitter atmosphere prevailed and prospects for improvement seemed less than dim."

Fortunately the leadership's timely decision to end the war put an abrupt end to negative thinking in the Muslim state, it said adding "Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's presidency has of itself created a feeling that things are no more the same and a new era has dawned.

Tehran TV Commentary on New Cabinet Ministers

NC0409124289 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1615 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Unattributed commentary from the "Weekly Report" feature]

[Text] Government Week this year was marked by new political developments in the country's executive system, as well as by the end of the 8-year government of Eng Musavi and the official commencement of the activities of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's cabinet, which received a vote of confidence from the Majlis.

From its very onset, Eng Musavi's cabinet, which was named the war cabinet, faced domestic and foreign problems and pressures and the vicissitudes of a period of war. Over the past 8 years, Eng Musavi's cabinet was unable to make long-term programs materialize because of domestic economic problems, foreign exchange and financial shortages stemming from the pressures inflicted by the economic siege and by political plots hatched by Western arrogance and the United States against the Islamic Republic of Iran, and because of some domestic political-theoretical problems.

But the situation and activities of the past government should not merely be studied by examining its programs and its economic-industrial objectives because various elements and parameters which were beyond the capabilities of the government and officials played a role, and each of these had its impact on the country's economy. The wartime government's significant and positive achievement is considered to be the preservation of the country's political- economic independence in the midst of the West's extensive plots and the pressures inflicted by the imposed war. Its achievement is also its faithfulness to the principles and values of the Islamic revolution; from its very start to the day of farewell, that cabinet worked toward this objective.

This is why it was supported repeatedly by Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, during the sensitive and significant moments of the war and was described as a government serving the oppressed. Therefore, the outstanding point of the past government was its resistance and revolutionary patience at a difficult and intolerable time of pressure and domestic and foreign economic-political bottlenecks resulting from the war.

The country's new political-economic era, which came after the end of the imposed war, and the commencement of the reconstruction era, was followed by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's new cabinet. This has created a better and different opportunity for the country's executive officials, and the president's new cabinet does not face many of the past's economic-political problems and pressures. Actually, the previous government preserved its executive and political ability in safeguarding the

country's system and revolutionary values in the tempest of the past's political-military incidents. The new government wants to use its political and executive ability for the country's economic planning and reconstruction.

A glance at the principles and general objectives of the presidential cabinet as explained by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, especially when introducing his cabinet and their programs to the Majlis deputies, shows that he sees the major objective of his planning and of the system's future strategy to be alongside the preservation of the revolution's traditional ideals and the development of the country's economy and industry. And it is because of this that he is trying, by relying on expert and educated managers and by employing scientific and technocratic forces, to achieve his long-term economic objectives and programs. This economic objective played the greatest role in his choice of ministers.

Among the major points in the presidential cabinet's program are the following: in the industrial field, activating factories, intensifying the country's production machinery, and assessing shortages and shortcomings; in the economic field, reducing inflation, and overcoming the existence of two rates; and in the field of education and higher education, creating a better atmosphere in schools in general and establishing private and free universities.

The noteworthy economic objectives and programs of the new cabinet and the selection of new faces for it naturally increases the expectation that the country's executive system will achieve acceptable success in its short-term objectives for solving some domestic shortcomings and shortages. These expectations are intensified by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's recent remarks when he stated that he intends to take steps toward this end within the next 7 or 8 months.

The social atmosphere and the domestic and foreign economic situation dictate that the new cabinet exert its efforts for reconstructing and developing the country and solving domestic economic shortages and pressures.

Despite current forecasts, one cannot say that the new cabinet will not face domestic and foreign economic and political pressures in the future. Even though these problems will not be the same as the problems and pressures faced by the former government, they nevertheless will pose difficulties for Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's cabinet.

Undoubtedly, the task of increasing domestic production by attracting capital sector investment by those active in commerce and wheeling and dealings and those who have become accustomed to astronomic incomes is not an easy task. It will take a long time and much effort to end the profit-seeking and wealth-amassing fever of some domestic investors and to accustom them to less profit gained through more effort in the production field.

Meanwhile, even though the new presidential cabinet and the long-term and short-term objectives and programs have been more concerned with economics because of the exigencies of time and in view of domestic shortages and high prices, the president nevertheless shoulders a heavy responsibility in the foreign affairs area because the Islamic Republic is considered to be the hearth of the Islamic revolution in the current oppressed world and the center on which the deprived and oppressed Muslims have focused.

Radicals Said To Organize Against President

TA0409081889 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] It is being said in Tehran's informed political circles that the regime's radical elements, such as Mohtashemi and Musavi Kho'iniha, have rallied around Ahmad Khomeyni and formed an invisible organizational network which is now acting vigorously against Hashemi-Rafsanjani's faction.

Informed people say that Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the regime's deposed prime minister, Mehdi Karrubi, 'Ali Meshkini, 'Abdol Karim Musavi Ardabili, and Mohammad Mohammadi Reyshahri are also members of this invisible network. These individuals have formed a resistance group opposing Hashemi-Rafsanjani's faction. Their aim is to force Hashemi-Rafsanjani to pursue the regime's previous policy.

President's 'Dismissal' as Commander in Chief

TA0409105689 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Hashemi-Rafsanjani's dismissal from the post of acting commander in chief, under the guise of resignation, has been assessed within the Army, as well as in informed political circles, as extremely significant. Informed people say that the fact that 'Ali Khamene'i reinstated Hashemi-Rafsanjani as armed forces acting commander in chief a few days after being chosen as leader of the Islamic Republic, and now, after about two months, has forced him to offer his resignation, shows that Hashemi-Rafsanjani's opponents are very strong. They forced Khamene'i to oust Hashemi-Rafsanjani from the Army so that should Hashemi-Rafsanjani weaken, he would not be able to utilize the Army as a tool of power in his own favor.

With the ousting of Hashemi-Rafsanjani from the Army the possibility that one day he might be able to transform himself into an unchallenged dictator has been eliminated. A dictator that has no Army at his disposal is not a dictator, but merely the shadow of one.

It is being said in Tehran's informed political circles that with Hashemi-Rafsanjani's dismissal by Khamene'i, the hope of optimists who believed that Hashemi-Rafsanjani would be able to rectify the country's affairs has now been converted into despair.

Prior to the presidential elections and the constitutional referendum, Hashemi-Rafsanjani's followers had carried out widespread propaganda in his favor. They hinted that if he were elected to the presidency, in view of the fact that he also holds the post of acting commander in chief, the country would become a paradise within a few years.

By dumping Hashemi-Rafsanjani from a post which he himself had given him 2 months ago, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i has now acquired a stronger position vis-a-vis Hashemi-Rafsanjani. With this act, Khamene'i has prevented Hashemi-Rafsanjani from becoming the sole actor in the political arena through the powers which the constitution has delegated to the president, and someone who might one day overshadow even Khamene'i himself. This action has strengthened the group of Mohtashemi, Ahmad Khomeyni, and Kho'iniha.

Informed political observers believe that Khamene'i's aim in dismissing Hashemi-Rafsanjani from the post of acting commander in chief is to prevent any of the rival factions from acquiring more power than the others. If this assessment is correct, it must be said that the power struggle is only now beginning, and the bloody phase of this struggle has not yet begun.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani's dismissal as acting commander in chief has disappointed his followers and hirelings who wished him to become the Islamic Republic regime's strongman. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's ouster from this post has undermined his position within the ruling circle which remains fragmented, whereas 'Abdollah Nuri, acting commander in chief of the Guards Corps, who most certainly is not one of Hashemi-Rafsanjani's supporters, still commands the Corps.

Informed people in Tehran say that during the past few days Hashemi-Rafsanjani and his clique have become weaker, and his opponents, including the radicals, have become stronger.

Pakistan

Islamabad Confirms Crash of F-16 Aircraft

BK0509153489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] An F-16 aircraft of the Pakistan Air Force on a routine training mission crashed near Jhang last night. The plane was flown by squadron leader Zafar Ahsan who died in the incident. A board of inquiry has been set up to ascertain the causes of the accident.

Khan, Bhutto Issue Messages on Defense Day

BK0609041289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] The nation is celebrating the Defense of Pakistan Day [marking the 1965 war with India] today to highlight the courage, determination, heroism, and valor of the armed forces in the defense of the country. Special prayers were offered this morning for the preservation of the integrity and sovereignty of the country with renewed determination to strengthen and preserve its solidarity.

In a message on the occasion, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan paid tribute to the crusaders and martyrs for their heroic deeds in defense of their motherland. The president said Pakistan is a peace-loving nation and has no aggressive designs against any country. It seeks peaceful and friendly relations with all its neighbors on the basis of equality and is working sincerely to promote a climate of mutually beneficial cooperation and goodwill in the region. The president said we also know that only by having a strong defense capability and maintaining the balance of power in the region can durable peace be ensured. The president expressed the hope that by remaining committed to their cause and remaining ready to face any threat, the armed forces of Pakistan would continue to serve the interests of peace.

In her message the prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, emphasized that the abiding lesson of today calls for national unity at all levels. It was unity among all sections of the nation which enabled us to meet the designs of an aggressor many times bigger than ourselves. The prime minister pointed out that our religion, Islam, means peace, and our people want peace, but peace with honor. Peace is only assured by strength and our strength does not lie in numbers but in our firm conviction in principles. She said our defense forces are stronger today than ever before because they enjoy the confidence of the masses.

The prime minister recalled her visit to Siachen where valiant soldiers have set new records in endurance and tenacity to defend even that remote part of the motherland. Their high morale manifests their deep faith in Islam and also the people's confidence in the defenders of their borders.

Ms Benazir Bhutto said the nation knows that in the strength of the armed forces lies the guarantee of the defense of frontiers and national security. The democratic government will give everything possible to enhance the professional capabilities and keep the defenders of the motherland fighting fit. She said this is the nation's commitment and, God willing, we shall never falter.

The minister of state for defense, retired Colonel Ghulam Sarwar Cheema, said in his message that the day assumes added significance this year because it is being observed for the first time since the revival of democracy in the country. He assured the officers and men of the three services that the democratic government is fully alive to the imperatives of national security and is conscious of its responsibility in this regard.

The services chiefs have also issued messages on the day.

Bhutto Visits Arms Exhibition in Rawalpindi

BK0609101989 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] An exhibition of arms and equipment organized by the Pakistan Army in connection with the Defense of Pakistan Day began at the racecourse ground in Rawalpindi this morning. The prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, accompanied by the chief of the army staff, General Mirza Aslam Beg; adviser on defense; minister of state for defense; deputy chief of the army staff; and senior army officials visited different stalls at the exhibition. Recording her impressions in the visitors book, the prime minister expressed her happiness over the display of many items used by the army, especially those made in the country. She said the nation prays for the success of the armed forces to achieve self-sufficiency in defense production and for the defense of the motherland.

Earlier, there was a demonstration of skills to acquaint the general public with the army culture. The deputy chief of the army staff, Lieutenant General Ahmad Kamal Khan, who was the chief guest, distributed prizes to best stalls and ground events.

Bhutto Names Assistant on Provincial Coordination

BK0509142789 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] According to a Cabinet announcement issued in Rawalpindi today, Jam Sadiq Ali has been appointed as the prime minister's special assistant for provincial coordination effective immediately.

Bail Petition for Province Governor Dismissed

BK3008113489 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] A central bench of the Peshawar High Court, comprising Mr Justice Nazir Ahmad Bhatti, after detailed hearing dismissed the bail petition of Retired Lieutenant General Fazle Haq in the murder case of Allama Arif Hussain al-Hussaini in Peshawar today. Mr Aslam Sheikh, counsel for the accused and the deputy attorney general for Pakistan, and special prosecutors of the North-West Frontier Province government took part in the arguments.

Agricultural Cooperation Accord Signed With Oman

BK0409144089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Pakistan and Oman have signed a memorandum of understanding for cooperation in agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries and forestry sectors. The document was signed by Agriculture Minister Rao Sikandar Iqbal and his Omani counterpart Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Abdallah ibn Zahir al-Hinai in Islamabad today.

Romanian Delegation Ends Visit, Departs 1 Sep

BK0209013089 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] The chairman of the State Planning Committee of Romania, Mr Radu Balan, has said his country is interested in extending cooperation to Pakistan in developing energy resources and agriculture. He was talking to newsmen at the Islamabad Airport today before his departure at the conclusion of his visit to Pakistan as head of a seven-member Romanian delegation.

Sri Lanka

Premadasa Speaks, Renews Call for Peace Talks

BK0509111089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1046 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Colombo, Sept 5 (AFP)—Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa Tuesday reiterated his willingness to talk with anti-government militants and said "no sacrifice would be too big" to end the violence across the country.

"Our country today is facing a national crisis.... No sacrifice would be too big for the democratic parties to make for the resolution of this crisis in order to save the democratic way of life," he said.

Mr Premadasa told his United National Party (UNP) MP's that a collective effort should be made by all political parties to bring Sinhalese militants in the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front) into the democratic mainstream.

The president's seven-page speech, released to reporters here, included a lengthy letter by JVP leader Rohana Wijeweera protesting his and his party's innocence in the 1983 anti-Tamil riots sent to the government that year.

"To me, of course, this (letter) was an eye opener. It was for these reasons that I said from the very inception that the ban on the JVP should be lifted," Mr Premadasa said.

A five-year proscription on the party was lifted in May 1988, but the group has remained an underground organisation and is continuing a violent campaign to overthrow the government.

Mr Premadasa said the JVP should be brought into a dialogue like the dominant Tamil separatist rebels who are currently holding peace talks with Colombo after ending a 17-year guerrilla campaign against the government.

"Once the talks begin, we will be able to find out what obstacles there are still in the way of the JVP entering the democratic process," Mr Premadasa said.

He said security forces would respond if the present violence and subversive activity ceased. "As long as

violence and subversive activities continue, the armed forces and police will perform their duty to protect the people."

Mr Premadasa's statement came as he invited all political parties to a conference on September 13 to hammer out a solution to the unending blood-letting in the country.

The government has said that the meeting will be a forum for a collective search for the ways and means of preventing violence and arriving at a consensus for reconciliation, peace and normalcy.

Anti-Government Violence Continues, Over 20 Dead

BK0509110889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1041 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Colombo, Sept 5 (AFP)—Gunmen shot dead a former junior minister and ruling party trade unionist at his office near here Tuesday as continuing political violence left at least 20 people dead, officials said.

Merril Kariyawasam, 52, former junior minister of women's affairs, was gunned down at the Sri Lanka Rubber Research Board (RRB) at Ratmalana by five men who escaped in a vehicle, police said.

He was the chairman of the RRB and a prominant trade union figure in the United National Party (UNP). A bodyguard and a secretary were wounded in the attack, police said.

The shooting came as security forces continued anti-rebel operations, killing three Sinhalese rebels, and as 21 others died in largely politically motivated violence across Sri Lanka.

Troops shot dead three subversives, an official term for activists of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front), in northwestern Puttalam district Monday, a government statement said.

It said the three men were gunned down while trying to escape from a safe house.

Residents here said they saw the blood-spattered body of a young man in Colombo's commercial and residential area of Borella Tuesday. The circumstances of his death were not immediately clear.

The government statement said three charred bodies were found by security forces in southern Matara District. Unidentified gunmen killed two women and an opposition activist in separate incidents.

In the island's south, subversives shot dead a ruling party politician's driver. Five others were killed by subversives in the past 24 hours, the statement said.

Security forces, during cordon-and-search operations across the country, screened 885 people, detaining 243 for further questioning, the statement said.

Military officials said subversives tried to ambush a police jeep in southern Kalutara District Monday by exploding a landmine, but the blast went off prematurely.

The English-language ISLAND said policemen came under fire after the explosion, but the gunmen escaped when police retaliated.

The government statement said Indian troops deployed in the island's Tamil-populated north-east killed four guerrillas of the dominant Tamil militant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE].

Both the LTTE and the JVP are opposed, for different reasons, to the 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord which brought Indian troops to the island's northeast.

The JVP is leading a violent campaign against the government while LTTE activists are fighting a bloody bush war against some 42,000 Indian soldiers.

Residents in southern Dehiwala town said they saw two bullet-riddled bodies of young men burning by the beach there Tuesday. The faces were burnt beyond recognition, they said.

Two more bodies were seen floating in Nilwala River in southern Matara Town, residents contacted by telephone said.

Human rights organisations have accused anti-JVP vigilante groups of killing rebel sympathisers.